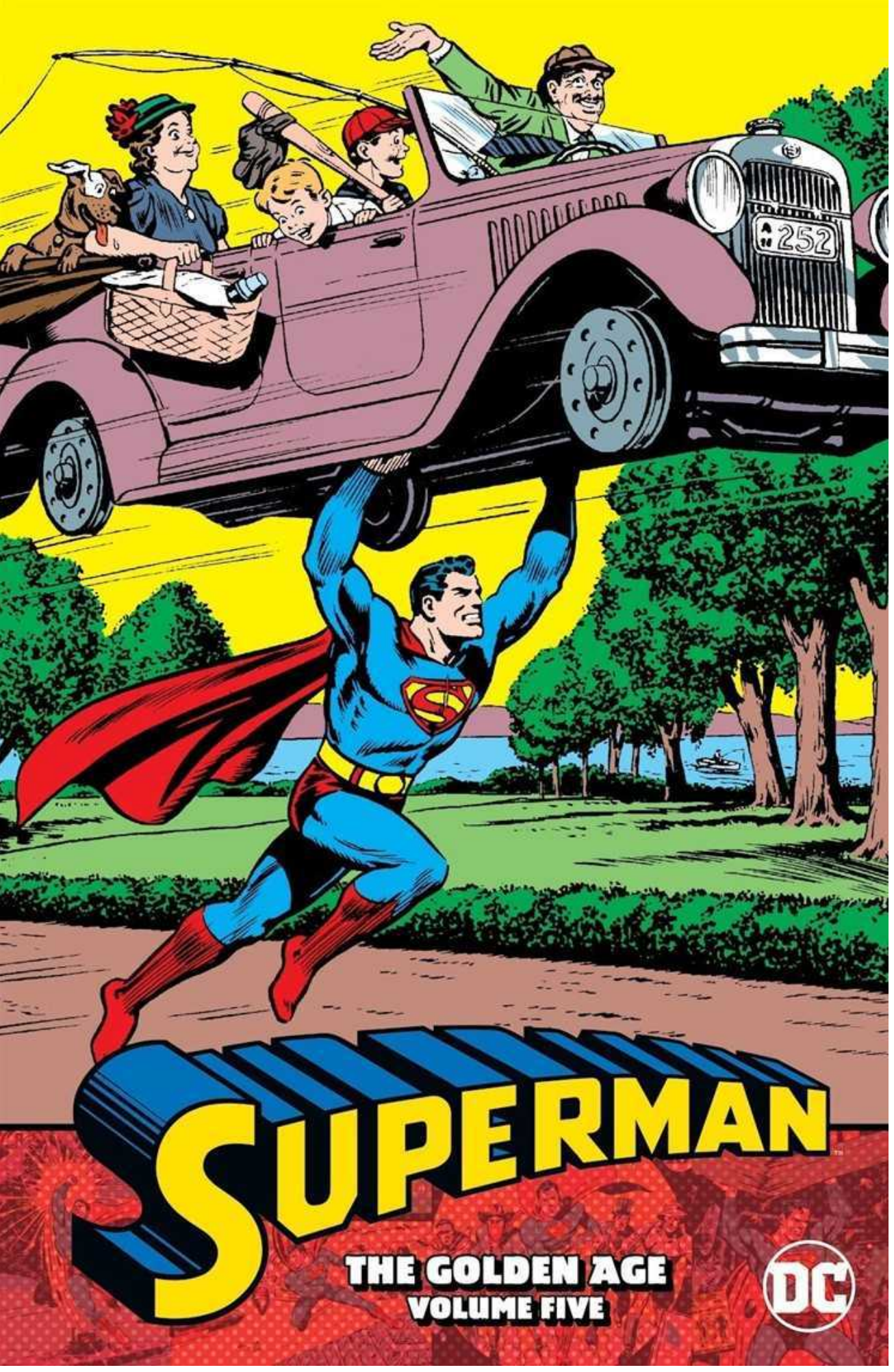

SUPERMAN

THE GOLDEN AGE
VOLUME FIVE

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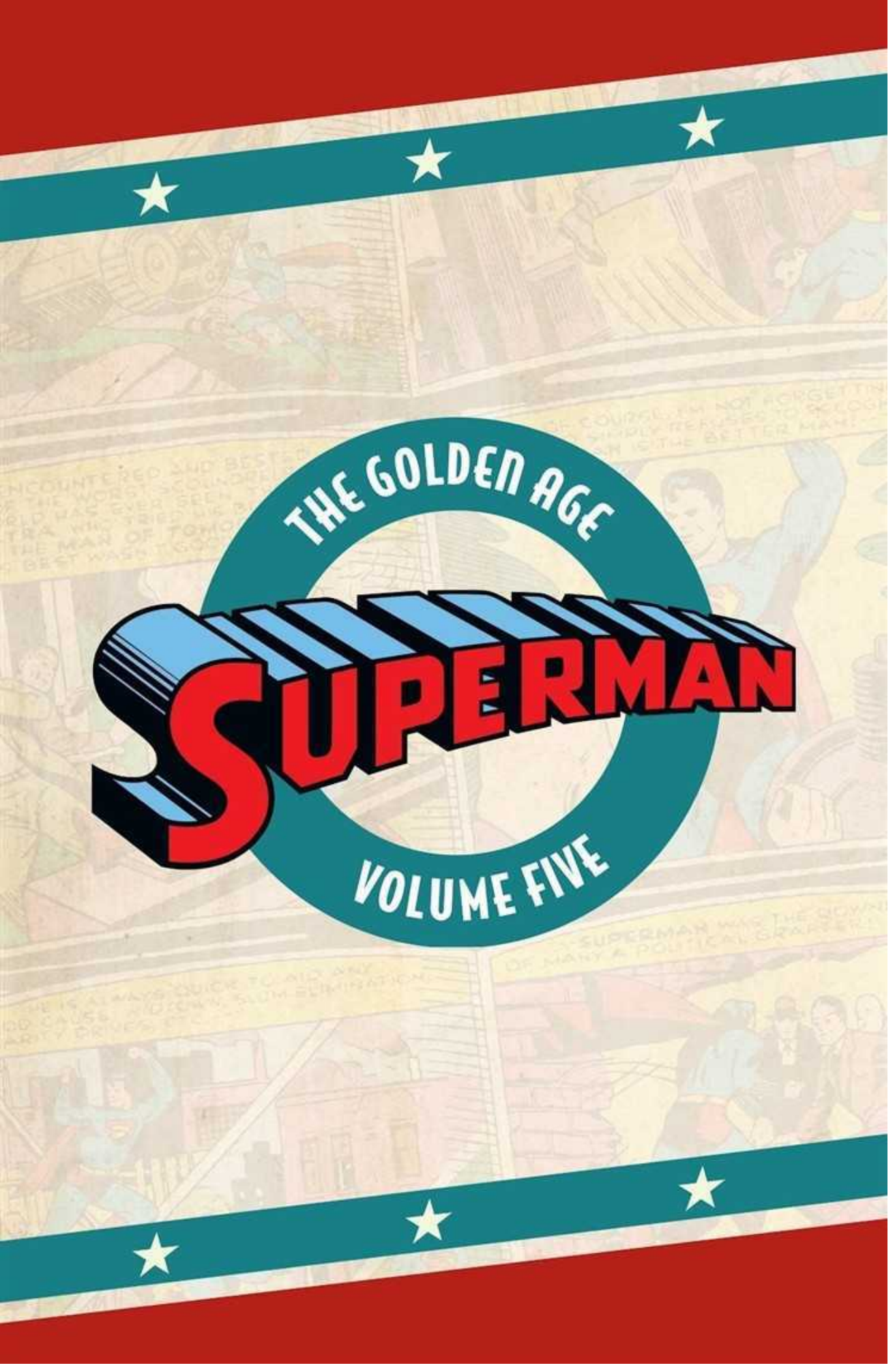
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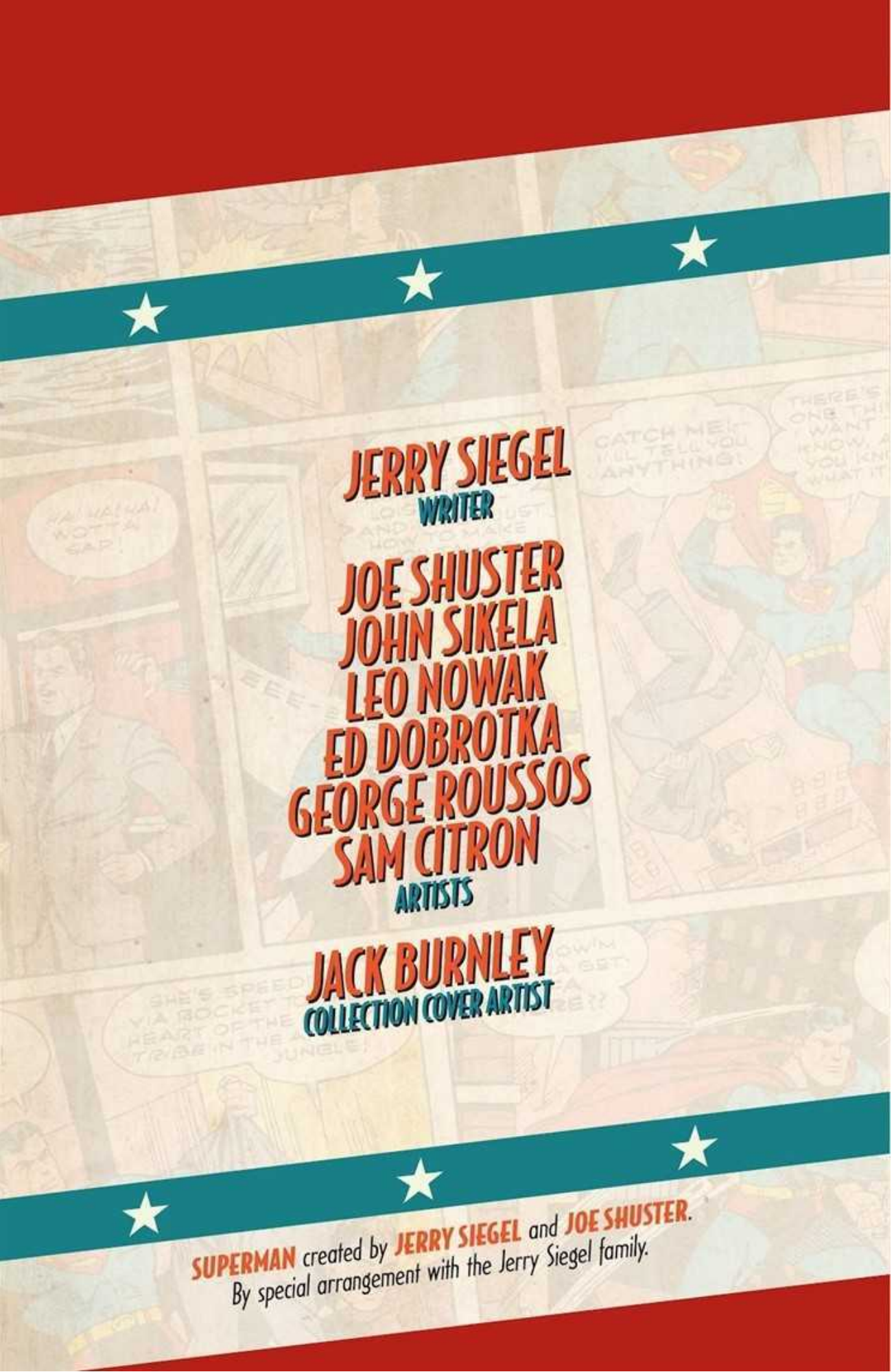

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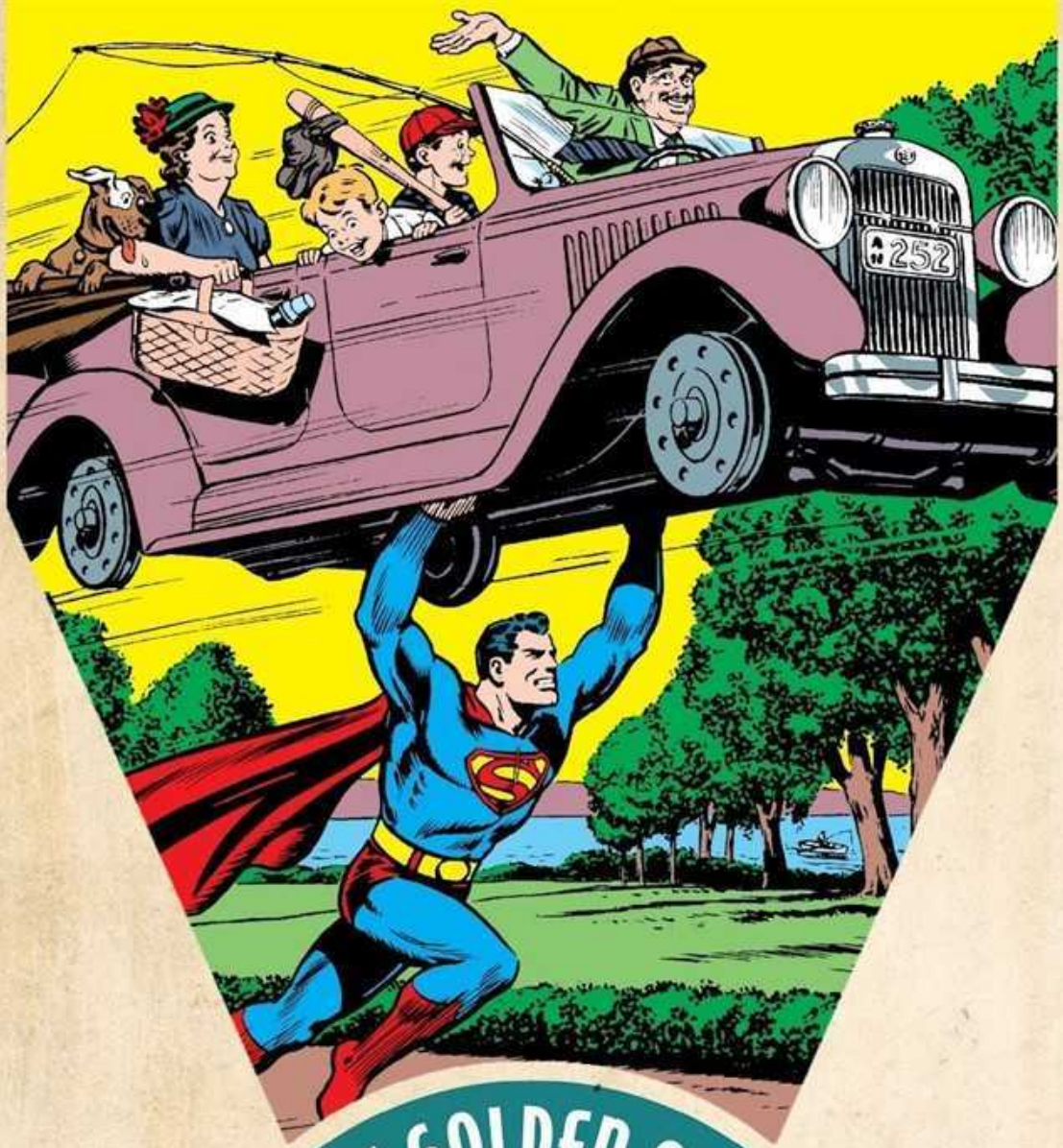

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SUPERMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOLUME FIVE

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All stories by JERRY SIEGEL

ACTION COMICS #48, May 1942
"The Merchant of Murder"
Cover art by FRED RAY
Artist: JOHN SIKELA
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SUPERMAN #16, May/June 1942
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Artist: JOHN SIKELA
"The World's Greatest Man"
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"The Case of the Runaway Skyscrapers"
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87

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"Man or Superman?"
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ACTION COMICS #52, September 1942
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SUPERMAN #18, September/October 1942
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"The Conquest of a City"
Artist: JOHN SIKELA
"The Heat Horror"
Artist: LEO NOWAK
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Penciller: JOHN SIKELA
Inker: ED DOBROTKA
"The Snake"
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ACTION COMICS #53, October 1942
"The Man Who Put Out the Sun!"
Cover art by JACK BURNLEY
Penciller: JOHN SIKELA
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"The Pirate of Pleasure Island"
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Penciller: JOHN SIKELA
Inker: ED DOBROTKA
"Superman's Amazing Adventure"*
Artist: LEO NOWAK
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"Superman, Matinee Idol"
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"Talent, Unlimited!"
Cover art by JACK BURNLEY
Penciller: SAM CITRON
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357

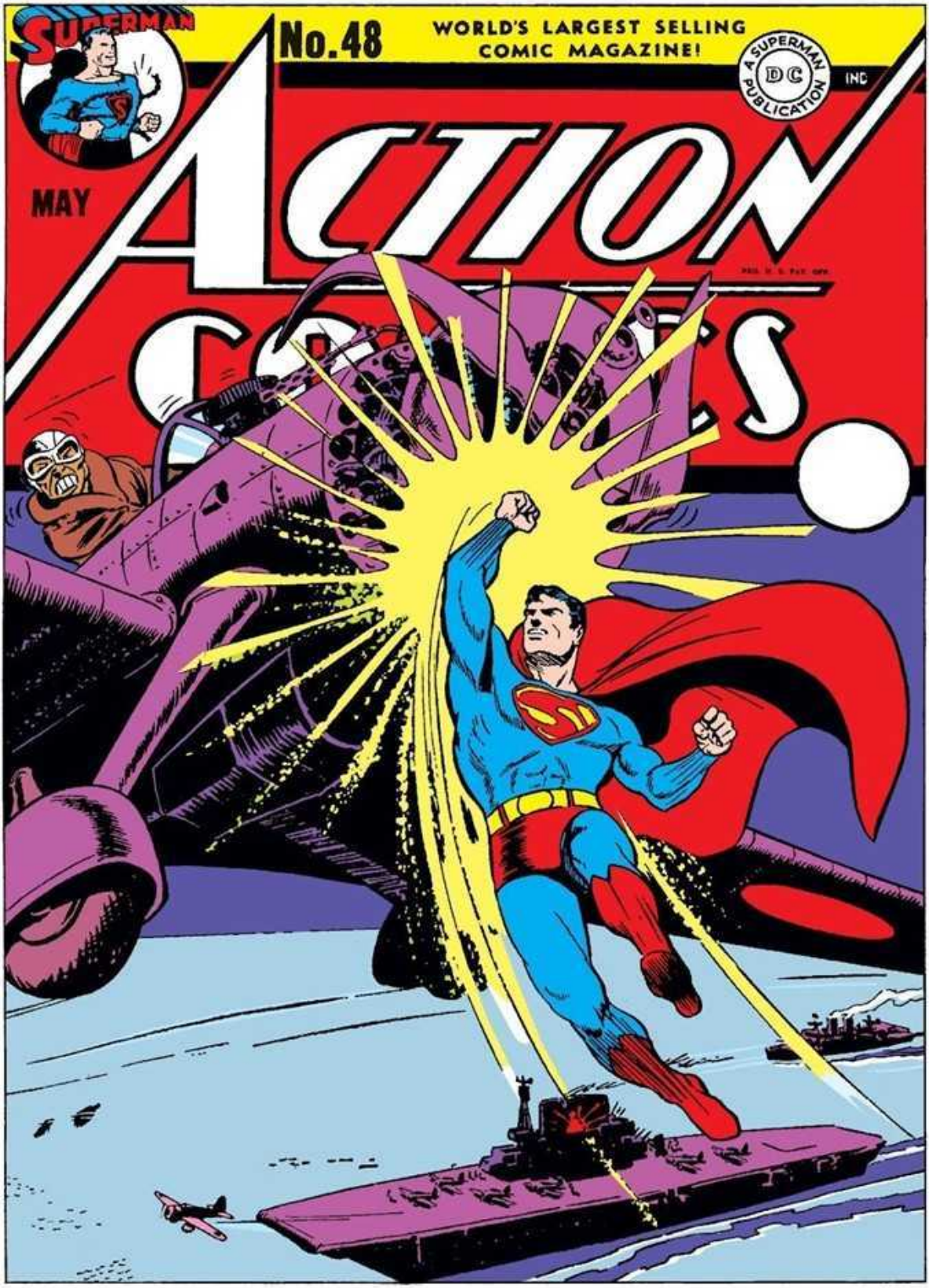
ACTION COMICS #56, January 1943
"Design for Doom"
Cover art by JOHN SIKELA
Penciller: JOHN SIKELA
Inker: GEORGE ROUSSOS
371

ACTION COMICS #57, February 1943
"Crime's Comedy King"
Cover art by JOHN SIKELA
Artist: JOHN SIKELA
385

*These stories were originally untitled and are titled here for reader convenience.

Until the 1970s, it was not common practice in the comic book industry to credit all stories. In the preparation of this collection, we have used our best efforts to review any surviving records and consult any available databases and knowledgeable parties. We regret the innate limitations of this process and any missing or misassigned attributions that may occur.

The comics in this volume were produced in a time when racism played a larger role in society and popular culture both consciously and unconsciously. They are unaltered in this collection, with the understanding that they are presented as historical documents.


SUPERMAN
No. 48
WORLD'S LARGEST SELLING COMIC MAGAZINE!
A SUPERMAN PUBLICATION
DC
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MAY
ACTION
COMICS

SUPERMAN
by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
BREEDER OF MASS MURDER IS THE TOP, AVARICIOUS OWNER OF A SECOND-HAND AUTO BUSINESS WHO DELIBERATELY AND KNOWINGLY SELLS CARS IN SERIOUSLY BAD CONDITION—A MENACE TO LIFE AND LIMB! TO UNMASK THIS RUTHLESS DEALER IN DEATH WHO AMASSES HIS PERNICIOUS PROFITS TO THE TERRIBLE TUNE OF CRASHING CARS, HIGHWAY HOMICIDE, AND HIT-AND-RUN HORROR, ONCE AGAIN THE MEEK DAILY PLANET REPORTER BECOMES THE MIGHTIEST AVENGER OF THEM ALL—SUPERMAN—IN "THE ADVENTURE OF THE MERCHANT OF MURDER"!
1

DAY IN, DAY OUT, MOTOR CRASHES OCCUR THROUGHOUT THE NATION, COLLECTING A FATAL TOLL OF HUMAN LIVES...
WHEN I ASKED YOU TO DRIVE SLOWLY BECAUSE OF THE EPIDEMIC OF ACCIDENTS WHICH HAS BEEN SHAKING THE COUNTRY, I DIDN'T MEAN FOR YOU TO CRAWL ALONG AT A MERE TEN-MILE-AN-HOUR PACE!
I'M NOT TAKING ANY CHANCES!
STOP
LOOK AT THEM GO -- TOO DANGEROUSLY FAST, I'D SAY!
PROBABLY THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY HAS A DAY OFF AND IS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO GO FOR A SPIN!
LOOK-- THE CAR THAT JUST PASSED US! WEAVING-- SKIDDING...!
THE DRIVER'S LOST CONTROL! THEY'RE GOING TO CRASH!
US 20
THE RUNAWAY VEHICLE CRASHES INTO AN ONCOMING CAR...!
JOINING OTHER MOTORISTS WHO RACE TO THE SCENE, CLARK PITS HIS STRENGTH AGAINST THE JAMMED DOOR... UNKNOWN TO THE OTHERS, HIS SUPERIOR STRENGTH ENABLES HIM TO FORCE IT OPEN...
THE DOOR'S LOOSE!
HELP THEM! THEY'RE PINNED INSIDE!!
2

DYING--JOHN'S DYING...AND TO THINK WE JUST BOUGHT THE CAR A FEW HOURS AGO.. INVESTED ALL OUR SAVINGS IN IT....
WHY DOESN'T THE AMBULANCE HURRY?
HERE IT COMES!
AS THE POLICE AMBULANCE DRIVES OFF WITH THE CRASH VICTIMS, CLARK'S UNCANNY X-RAY VISION DISCLOSES TO HIM...
("-NO WONDER HE LOST CONTROL OF THE CAR... THE BRAKE-LINING IS WORN OUT...BUT THAT WOMAN SAID THEY JUST BOUGHT THE CAR!-")
WHEN THE POLICE PHOTOGRAPHER ARRIVES ON THE SCENE, CLARK MAKES A REQUEST...
PLEASE LET ME HAVE A SHOT OF THE WRECKAGE FROM THIS ANGLE...SEND IT UP TO THE NEWSPAPER OFFICE QUICKLY.
OKAY, KENT.
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, CLARK?
3531
LOIS, THOSE UNFORTUNATE PEOPLE HAD JUST PURCHASED A SECOND-HAND AUTO UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT IT WAS IN GOOD CONDITION, BUT, FROM THE WAY THE CAR WEAVED BEFORE THE CRASH HAPPENED, IT'S OBVIOUS THAT THE MECHANISM WAS DEFECTIVE!
OF ALL THE DESPICABLE CRIMES! WHOEVER SOLD THAT CAR MUST HAVE KNOWN IT WAS FAULTY... BUT DIDN'T GIVE A HANG WHAT TRAGEDY MIGHT HAPPEN TO THE PURCHASERS!
WHITE, I WANT YOUR PERMISSION TO BUST THIS VICIOUS USED CAR RACKET WIDE OPEN!
GO TO IT, CLARK!
I KNEW WE COULD COUNT ON YOU FOR THE "GO" SIGNAL!
AT THE OFFICE OF SID SPEED, PROPRIETOR OF SPEED MOTORS...
BUT "TOP"—I CAN'T HELP IT IF THIS DUMB CLUCK OF A REPORTER IS CAMPAIGNING FOR CITY SUPERVISION OF USED CAR SALES--
KENT DELIBERATELY PRINTED THAT PICTURE OF THE WRECKED CAR WHICH PLAINLY SHOWED THE NAME SPEED MOTORS ABOVE THE LICENSE PLATE...HE'S DANGEROUS... SILENCE HIM...!
3
I WANT TO TALK TO YOU RIGHT AWAY, KENT! CAN I EXPECT YOU?
I'LL BE RIGHT OVER! I'VE BEEN WANTING TO SEE YOU, MR. SPEED!
SO LONG, LOIS! SEE YOU LATER!
GOODBYE, CLARK! ("-YOU BET YOU WILL! IF YOU'RE GOING TO SPEED MOTORS I DON'T WANT TO MISS THE FIREWORKS!-")

STEPPING INTO A DESERTED DOORWAY, THE DAILY PLANET REPORTER SWITCHES TO THE IDENTITY OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST NEMESIS OF ALL EVILDOERS....
MY CONVERSATION WITH MR. SPEED OUGHT TO BE INTERESTING—BUT NOT AS INTERESTING AS THE INFORMATION I MAY PICK UP WHILE RECONNOITERING AS SUPERMAN!
A MOMENT LATER—A HUMAN LIGHTNING BOLT STREAKS UP—UP INTO THE SKY....
I LIKE THE AIR UP HERE!
MOMENTS LATER, AS SUPERMAN DRIFTS LEISURELY OVER THE SPEED MOTORS BUILDING, USING HIS WIDE-SPREAD CAPE LIKE A SAIL.
SO THAT'S WHAT GOES ON...!
WHAT THE MAN OF TOMORROW HAS SIGHTED—INSIDE THE BUILDING, IN A REAR GARAGE, MECHANICS WORK BUSILY OVER SMASHED AUTOS, HAMMERING THEM BACK INTO SHAPE....
WHAT A JOB! IT WOULD BE EASIER TO BUILD NEW AUTOS THAN KNOCK THESE OLD WRECKS TOGETHER SO THEY LOOK HALF DECENT.
WHAT A RACKET! NO ONE WOULD EVER RECOGNIZE THESE SPIFFY-LOOKING HEAPS AS THE WRECKED CARS THAT WE TOWED IN HERE A FEW WEEKS AGO!
WHAT'RE YOU KICKIN' ABOUT? THE CUSTOMERS DON'T KNOW ENOUGH TO... AN' YOU'RE WELL PAID FOR YOUR WORK!
WHAT DOES SPEED CARE IF UNDER THE SHINY SURFACES THESE CARS ARE STILL OLD WRECKS AND SURE MEAT FOR MORE ACCIDENTS? ALL HE WANTS IS QUICK PROFITS—AND THE DEVIL TAKE THE CUSTOMER!
DOWN PLUMMETS THE MAN OF STEEL!
I WANT TO HEAR MORE!
("-PS-ST! LOOK!!-")
("-A SNOOPER! RUSH HIM!-")
4
BUT AS SPEED'S STRONGARM MEN RUSH HIM, THE MAN OF TOMORROW WHIRLS BEHIND THEM WITH SUPER-SPEED...
HUH? WH-WHERE IS HE?
BUT HE WAS HERE A SECOND AGO!
EVER THINK OF LOOKING BEHIND YOU?
OWW-WWW!!

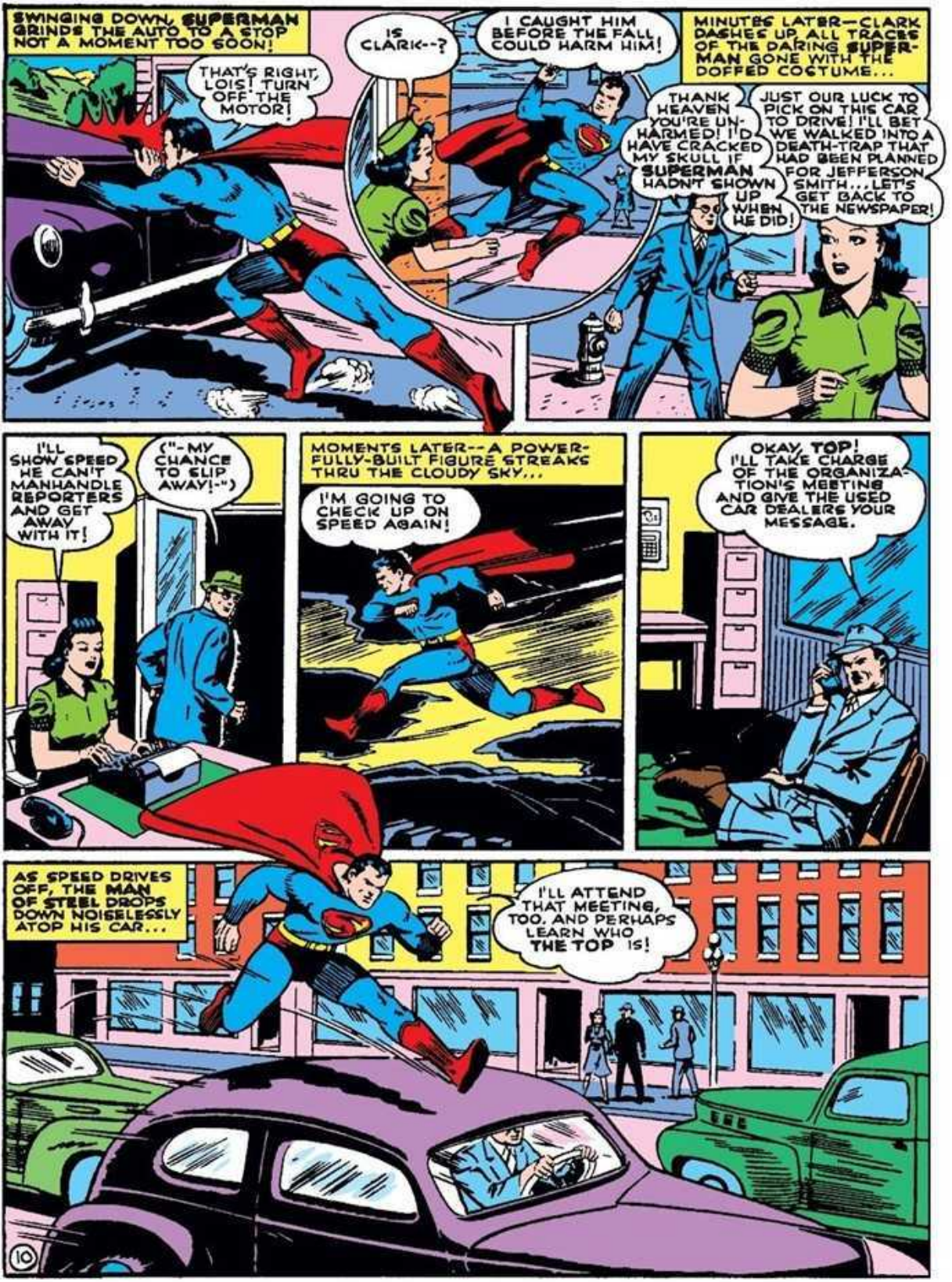
ABOVE, ON THE ROOF, ANOTHER HOODLUM LOOKS DOWN AND SURVEYS THE STARTLING SCENE...
IT'S SUPERMAN! GOSH! HERE'S MY CHANCE TO CAPTURE HIM SINGLE-HANDED! I'LL BE A HERO!
SCRAMBLING TO THEIR FEET, THE ENRAGED THUGS CHARGE THE MAN OF TOMORROW...
I'LL FIX YA FOR THAT!
WAIT'LL I GRAB YA!
HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
HIS CHEST --IT'S LIKE IRON!
DOWN HURTLES THE HISSING NOOSE...
I WON'T MISS...!
WHAT'S THIS? SOMEONE PLAYING VIGILANTE ?
I--I GOT HIM...B-BUT I C-CAN'T BUDGE HIM!!!
WRONG, CHUM-- I'VE GOT YOU!
6

WHAT'S ALL THE NOISE?
THERE HE GOES!
SUPER-MAN!
WE TRIED TO CAPTURE HIM, BUT HE HANDLED US LIKE WE WAS KIDS!
FRANTIC AT THE SUDDEN TURN OF EVENTS, SPEED TELEPHONES HIS MYSTERIOUS SUPERIOR...
I'M GETTING WORRIED, TOP! IF SUPERMAN IS LOOKING INTO OUR RACKET IT'S TIME TO CLOSE SHOP!
NO, YOU FOOL! WE'VE TOO MUCH AT STAKE! IT WAS THOSE NEWS-PAPER ARTICLES THAT CAUSED SUPERMAN TO INVESTIGATE. ATTEND TO THAT NOSEY REPORTER, AND OUR WORRIES ARE OVER!
CIRCLING BACK, SUPER-MAN ONCE AGAIN BECOMES CLARK KENT....
NOW TO KEEP THAT APPOINT-MENT!
BUT AS CLARK IS ABOUT TO ENTER THE SPEED MOTORS SHOW-ROOM, HE ENCOUNTERS...
LOIS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
THE SAME THING YOU ARE, I'M AFTER A STORY!
MAY I SHOW YOU SOME OF OUR CHOICER USED CARS?
NO, I....
SURE... WHY NOT?
BUT, LOIS--WE DIDN'T COME HERE TO BUY A CAR! WE CAME TO....
SH-HH! WE DIDN'T SAY WE WANTED TO BUY A CAR. THIS IS OUR CHANCE TO INSPECT THEIR LAYOUT WHILE THEY'RE OFF GUARD. NOW BE QUIET AND LET ME DO THE TALKING!
SPEED MOTORS
PLEMUN DEALERS
6

NOW LOOK AT THESE LOVELY MODELS! NOTE THE BEAUTIFUL PAINT JOB...THE UNSCRATCHED FENDERS...
AND NOTE THE BREAK IN THE FRAME. NO, MISTER— I WANT A CAR, NOT A HEARSE!
ER--I CAN'T IMAGINE HOW THAT DEFECT SLIPPED OUR ATTENTION. BUT LOOK INSIDE THIS CAR--NOTE THE CLEAN UPHOLSTERY, THE RADIO...
IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THESE BRAKES ARE BAD!
WHAT'S THE IDEA OF PICKING FAULT? DO YOU OR DON'T YOU WANT TO BUY A GOOD USED CAR CHEAP?
WHO SAID WE WANTED TO BUY A CAR?
WE DIDN'T. WE JUST AGREED TO LOOK AT CARS!
I GET IT! A COUPLE OF SMART ALECKS! GET OUT OF HERE!
STOP THAT! YOU CAN'T DO THAT TO CLARK!
GET ME MR. SPEED!
WHO WANTS ME?
NICE PEOPLE YOU'VE GOT WORKING FOR YOU, MR. SPEED. WE WERE JUST LOOKING AT SOME OF YOUR MODELS WHEN YOUR SALESMAN DECIDED TO GET TOUGH.
THEY WERE MAKING A LOT OF CRACKS ABOUT THE CARS BEING IN PUNK CONDITION.
THEY WERE, EH? THROW 'EM OUT!
IS THAT THE WAY YOU TREAT REPORTERS AFTER INVITING THEM OVER?
DID YOU SAY REPORTERS? OH, I SEE, YOU'RE CLARK KENT! PLEASE FORGIVE THE SALESMAN'S BAD MANNERS...I'LL TALK TO HIM LATER! COME INTO MY PRIVATE OFFICE!
BUT--!
THERE!
HAVE SOME CIGARS.
SORRY, I DON'T SMOKE.
YOU CAN CUT OUT THE PRELIMINARIES, MR. SPEED. YOU DIDN'T INVITE CLARK OVER HERE JUST TO OFFER HIM SOME CIGARS. START TALKING!
7

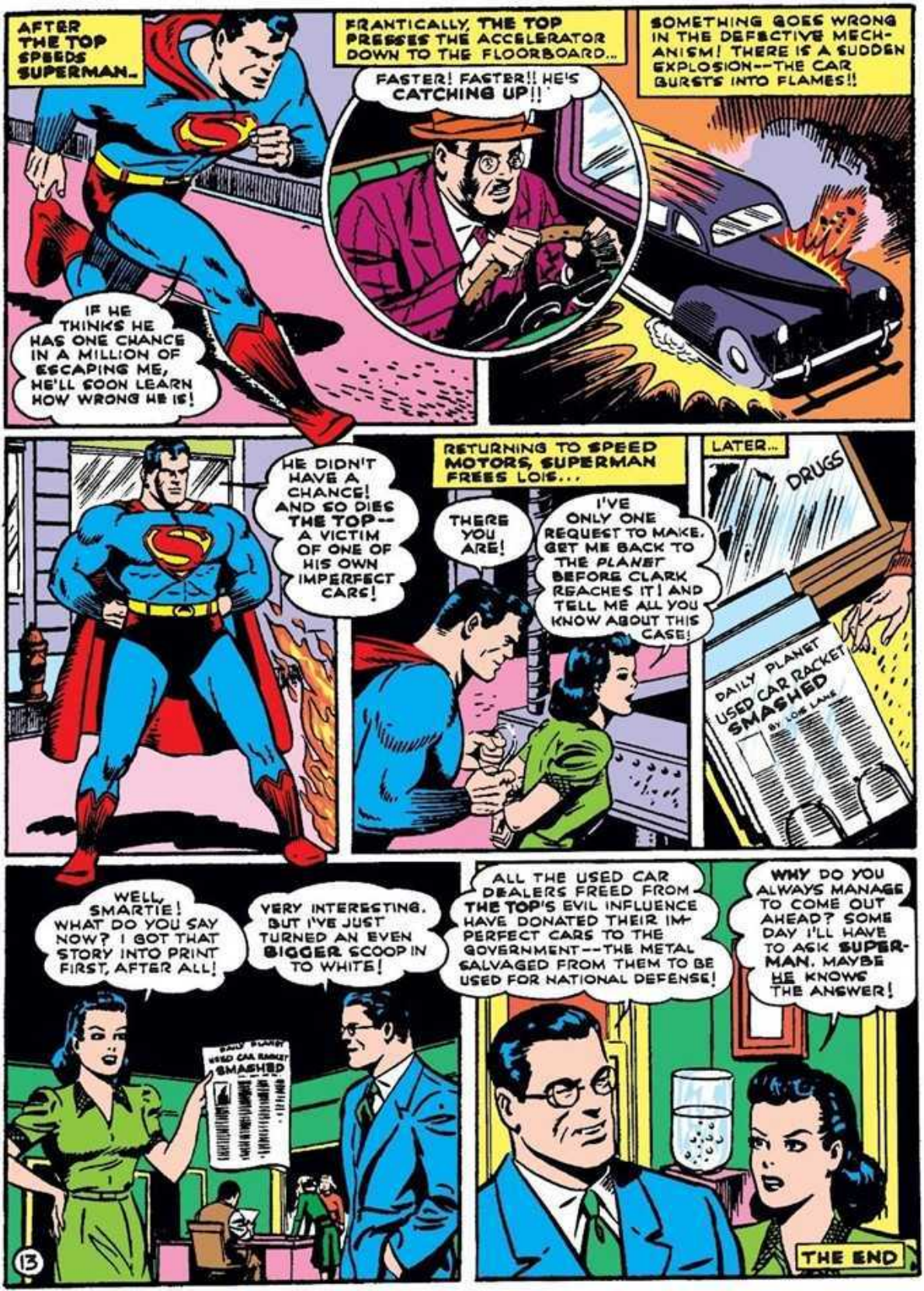
OKAY, I'LL TALK. YOU'VE GOT TO STOP YOUR ARTICLES ATTACKING THE EVILS OF THE USED CAR BUSINESS, SEE? DO SO, AN' I'LL MAKE IT WELL WORTH YOUR WHILE.
NOT INTERESTED!
DEFINITELY NOT!
YOU'D BETTER RE-CONSIDER--!
NOTHING CAN MAKE US CHANGE OUR MIND!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE, CLARK. I DON'T LIKE THE ODOR.
THAT'S RIGHT—THROW 'EM OUT ON THEIR EAR!
YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME!
TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME!
OUCH!
THEY WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS!
OUTSIDE, A MILD-MANNERED LITTLE MAN ASSISTS CLARK TO HIS FEET...
I HOPE YOU'RE NOT HURT, KENT.
SAY, WAIT! HOW DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW CLARK'S NAME?
THANKS, SIR.
I'M JEFFERSON SMITH... A PRIVATE DETECTIVE. YOUR ARTICLES IN THE *PLANET* HAVE INSPIRED ME TO INVESTIGATE THE USED CAR RACKET. I'VE BEEN KEEPING **SPEED MOTORS** UNDER OBSERVATION FOR QUITE SOME TIME.
OH, I SEE. I HOPE YOU HAVE MORE SUCCESS IN UNCOVERING THE RACKET THAN WE HAVE HAD.
DARN IT. NO TAXI IN SIGHT... AND I'M ANXIOUS TO HURRY BACK TO THE *PLANET* AND GET THIS STORY INTO PRINT.
THIS CERTAINLY IS NICE OF YOU, SMITH. BUT AREN'T WE IMPOSING ON...
NOT AT ALL. I INSIST YOU USE MY CAR. I'LL CALL FOR IT LATER AT THE *PLANET*.
THANKS. WE CERTAINLY APPRECIATE THIS!
8
BUT MINUTES LATER--AS THE CAR HURTLES DOWN A STEEP HILL....
CLARK! WHAT'S THE MATTER?
THE BRAKES WON'T WORK!!
SLOW
STEEP
HILL

DESPERATELY MANEUVERING THE STEERING WHEEL, CLARK NARROWLY MISSES CAR AFTER CAR AT INTERSECTIONS...
CLARK--YOU'VE GOT TO STOP THIS CAR OR WE'LL CRASH!
SURE--BUT HOW???
GLANCING AHEAD, KENT SIGHTS A SCENE WHICH PROMISES CERTAIN DESTRUCTION... DIRECTLY IN HIS AUTO'S PATH ARE TWO CARS WHICH HAVE COLLIDED... THE DRIVERS ARE ON THE SIDEWALK, ARGUING HEATEDLY....
ACTING AT GREAT HASTE, CLARK PRETENDS TO TOPPLE OUT OF THE SPEEDING AUTO....
THE DOOR OPEN--HELP, LOIS! I'M FALLING OUT!!
LOOK OUT, CLARK!
AT SUCH A TREMENDOUS RATE OF SPEED DOES KENT SWITCH GARMENTS THAT HE IS TRANSFORMED TO HIS SUPERMAN IDENTITY BEFORE HE STRIKES THE PAVEMENT...
THIS DOESN'T LEAVE ME MUCH TIME TO WORK!
SOMERSAULTING BACK THRU THE AIR, THE MAN OF TO-MORROW MAKES A DESPERATE EFFORT TO AVERT THE COLLISION...
I'VE GOT MY FINGERS CROSSED!
CRASHING DOWN BUT INCHES AHEAD OF THE CAR HE HAS ABANDONED, SUPERMAN SHOVES THE OTHER TWO CARS APART....
DON'T HOG THE ROAD!
THE GIRL'S CAR BREEZES THRU THE BREACH...
NOT EVEN A SCRATCHED FENDER!
BUT THE DANGER IS NOT YET OVER. UP ONTO THE SIDEWALK LEAPS THE AUTO-MOBILE, HEADING TOWARD A STORE WINDOW...
MY WORK'S NOT FINISHED--YET!
9


SWINGING DOWN, SUPERMAN GRINDS THE AUTO TO A STOP NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON!
THAT'S RIGHT, LOIS! TURN OFF THE MOTOR!
IS CLARK--?
I CAUGHT HIM BEFORE THE FALL COULD HARM HIM!
MINUTES LATER—CLARK DASHES UP, ALL TRACES OF THE DARING SUPERMAN GONE WITH THE DOFFED COSTUME...
THANK HEAVEN YOU'RE UNHARMED! I'D HAVE CRACKED MY SKULL IF SUPERMAN HADN'T SHOWN UP WHEN HE DID!
JUST OUR LUCK TO PICK ON THIS CAR TO DRIVE! I'LL BET WE WALKED INTO A DEATH-TRAP THAT HAD BEEN PLANNED FOR JEFFERSON SMITH... LET'S GET BACK TO THE NEWSPAPER!
I'LL SHOW SPEED HE CAN'T MANHANDLE REPORTERS AND GET AWAY WITH IT!
("-MY CHANCE TO SLIP AWAY!-")
MOMENTS LATER--A POWERFULLY-BUILT FIGURE STREAKS THRU THE CLOUDY SKY...
I'M GOING TO CHECK UP ON SPEED AGAIN!
OKAY, TOP! I'LL TAKE CHARGE OF THE ORGANIZATION'S MEETING AND GIVE THE USED CAR DEALERS YOUR MESSAGE.
AS SPEED DRIVES OFF, THE MAN OF STEEL DROPS DOWN NOISELESSLY ATOP HIS CAR...
I'LL ATTEND THAT MEETING, TOO, AND PERHAPS LEARN WHO THE TOP IS!
10

ENTERING A BUILDING ON THE CITY'S OUTSKIRTS, SPEED ADDRESSES A NUMBER OF SULLEN BUSINESS MEN...
YOU'VE COME HERE FROM ALL OVER THE NATION IN ANSWER TO THE TOP'S ORDER. I'M HERE TO PASS ON HIS MESSAGE TO YOU.
YOU'VE ALL BEEN PUTTING TOO MUCH REPAIR WORK INTO THE USED CARS YOU SELL. THE TOP WANTS YOU TO SPEND EVEN LESS ON THE WRECKS SO THAT OUR PROFITS WILL BE HIGHER!
WE WON'T DO IT! WHEN WE AGREED TO WORK FOR THE TOP, WE DIDN'T REALIZE THAT WHAT WE'RE DOING IS PRACTICALLY MURDER!
MOST OF US HAVE SIGNED THIS PETITION. WE'RE WITHDRAWING FROM THIS CROOKED ORGANIZATION AND WILL RUN OUR BUSINESSES IN A LEGITIMATE MANNER!
ANGRILY, SPEED SICS HIS STRONGARM MEN ON THE ORGANIZATION'S RECALCITRANT MEMBERS.
BEAT 'EM UP! SHOW THEM THE TOP WON'T LET ANY OF THEM QUIT!
YOU'RE GONNA EAT THAT PETITION!
THRU A WINDOW AND DOWN INTO THE FRAY CRASHES....
SUPERMAN!
A FIGHT, EH? LET ME IN ON THIS!
INTO THE COWARDLY BAND OF MUSCLEMEN WADES THE MAN OF TOMORROW, POWERFUL FISTS WHIRLING LIKE WINDMILLS...
WHERE'S YOUR ANXIETY TO FIGHT NOW?
OWW WW!
STOP IT!
OUCH!
QUICK-- OUT OF THIS PLACE WHILE YOU CAN!
HEY! DON'T HIT ME! I'M A PRIVATE DETECTIVE INVESTIGATING THIS BUNCH.
MY ERROR!
SMITH LEADS AN EXODUS FROM THE BUILDING. BUT SUDDENLY THERE IS A DEAFENING EXPLOSION...THE EDIFICE BEGINS TO CRUMBLE...SUPERMAN PITS HIMSELF AGAINST THE WALLS, SUPPORTING THEM...
NO SOONER DOES THE LAST MAN ESCAPE THAN THE ENTIRE STRUCTURE COLLAPSES UPON THE MAN OF TOMORROW....
IT'S THE END OF SUPERMAN!!
11

BUT AS THE WRECKAGE IS HEAVED ASIDE, SUPERMAN BURROWS INTO VIEW, THEN SPRINGS AWAY...
HE'S ALIVE!
I'M NOT TO BE DISPOSED OF SO EASILY. GO BACK TO YOUR BUSINESSES, AND SCRAP THE DANGEROUS WRECKS!
REVERTING TO HIS IDENTITY OF CLARK KENT, THE MAN OF TOMORROW RETURNS TO THE NEWSPAPER BUILDING. BUT LATER, AS HE LEAVES WITH LOIS..
SPEED!
THAT'S RIGHT! GET IN! THE TOP WANTS TO SEE YOU!
AND LATER... AT SPEED MOTORS....
HERE THEY ARE, TOP!
JEFFERSON SMITH!
SINCE YOU ESCAPED MY PREVIOUS ATTEMPT TO SLAY YOU, I'LL HAVE TO SEE THERE'S NO SLIP-UP THIS TIME!
STRAPPING CLARK AND LOIS TO THE BASE OF A GIANT PRESS, THE TOP TURNS ON THE MASSIVE MECHANISM, THEN DEPARTS WITH HIS HIRELINGS....
TA-TA! PARDON ME WHILE I GO AND HAMMER SOME SENSE INTO THOSE STUPID USED CAR DEALERS!
YOU KILLER!!
DOWN DESCENDS THE MIGHTY PRESS SLOWLY, BUT, AS IT IS ABOUT TO CRUSH THE TWO REPORTERS, CLARK RAISES HIS KNEES SLIGHTLY, STOPPING ITS DESCENT....
IT--IT'S STOPPED!
OUR GOOD LUCK! ("LOIS DOESN'T DREAM IT'S MY STRENGTH WHICH KEEPS THE PRESS FROM DESCENDING FURTHER!-")
FREEING ONE HAND, CLARK TEARS OUT THE ELECTRIC WIRES WHICH CONTROL THE MECHANISM, THEN RIDS HIMSELF OF HIS BONDS...
HURRY! UNSTRAP ME!
NOTHING DOING! YOU'VE ROBBED ME OF TOO MANY BY-LINES LATELY. YOU'RE SAFE HERE. I'LL COME BACK AND FREE YOU AFTER I'VE TURNED IN THE STORY!
SIGHTING THE RACKETEERS ABOUT TO ENTER THEIR CAR, CLARK ONCE AGAIN RESUMES HIS SUPERMAN TRANSFORMATION....
YOU'LL NOT ESCAPE IN THAT CAR!
FOR SALE
LEAPING INTO ONE OF THE USED CAR "BARGAINS" ON THE LOT, THE TOP DRIVES DESPERATELY AWAY....
GOT TO MAKE A DASH FOR IT!!
12


AFTER THE TOP SPEEDS SUPERMAN..
IF HE THINKS HE HAS ONE CHANCE IN A MILLION OF ESCAPING ME, HE'LL SOON LEARN HOW WRONG HE IS!
FRANTICALLY, THE TOP PRESSES THE ACCELERATOR DOWN TO THE FLOORBOARD...
FASTER! FASTER!! HE'S CATCHING UP!!
SOMETHING GOES WRONG IN THE DEFECTIVE MECHANISM! THERE IS A SUDDEN EXPLOSION--THE CAR BURSTS INTO FLAMES!!
HE DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE! AND SO DIES THE TOP--A VICTIM OF ONE OF HIS OWN IMPERFECT CARS!
RETURNING TO SPEED MOTORS, SUPERMAN FREES LOIS...
THERE YOU ARE!
I'VE ONLY ONE REQUEST TO MAKE. GET ME BACK TO THE PLANET BEFORE CLARK REACHES IT! AND TELL ME ALL YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS CASE!
LATER...
DRUGS
DAILY PLANET
USED CAR RACKET SMASHED
BY LOIS LANE
WELL, SMARTIE! WHAT DO YOU SAY NOW? I GOT THAT STORY INTO PRINT FIRST, AFTER ALL!
VERY INTERESTING. BUT I'VE JUST TURNED AN EVEN BIGGER SCOOP IN TO WHITE!
SMASHED
ALL THE USED CAR DEALERS FREED FROM THE TOP'S EVIL INFLUENCE HAVE DONATED THEIR IMPERFECT CARS TO THE GOVERNMENT--THE METAL SALVAGED FROM THEM TO BE USED FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE!
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS MANAGE TO COME OUT AHEAD? SOME DAY I'LL HAVE TO ASK SUPERMAN. MAYBE HE KNOWS THE ANSWER!
THE END
13

No.16
SUPERMAN
A SUPERMAN PUBLICATION
DC
MAY
JUNE
OH, CLARK . . .
ISN'T HE
WONDERFUL !?!
(SIGH)
SUPERMAN
ERECTED BY THE CITIZENS OF
METROPOLIS
IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION
OF HIS MANY SERVICES
TO THE COMMUNITY
AND TO MANKIND

SUPERMAN
by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
EVER SINCE SUPERMAN DEDICATED HIMSELF TO BATTLING CRIME, INJUSTICE, AND OPPRESSION IN THIS WORLD, HE HAS ENCOUNTERED MANY EVIL RASCALS. BUT IN THIS CURRENT ADVENTURE HE CLASHES WITH A SCOUNDREL WHOSE VILLAINY IS INCOMPARABLE... A COLD-BLOODED FIEND WHO IS DETERMINED TO SMASH UNDERPRIVILEGED YOUTH'S CHANCE FOR HAPPINESS. THIS IS THE INHUMAN SCHEMER YOU ENCOUNTER IN THE ADVENTURE OF.... "THE WORLD'S MEANEST MAN"!
WHITE HAD AN INSPIRATION WHEN HE ARRANGED FOR US TO TAKE SLUM KIDS OUT INTO THE COUNTRY FOR THE DAY!
FROM WHAT HE TELLS ME, THE PARENTS OF THE CHILDREN WERE PRETTY PLEASED ABOUT IT, TOO!
A CROWD OF POORLY DRESSED YOUNGSTERS POUR GLEEFULLY INTO CLARK'S CAR...
A DAY IN THE COUNTRY! GEE!
I CAN'T REMEMBER THE LAST TIME I WAS THERE!
I NEVER WAS!
THE HAPPINESS ON THEIR FACES...!
GET GOING, CLARK!
1

HEY! CAREFUL!
LET THEM HAVE THEIR FUN!
SIGHTING AN INVITING, OPEN MEADOW, CLARK STOPS THE CAR...
JUST THINK! WE CAN PLAY WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT AUTOMOBILES!
HOW ABOUT GOING TO THAT NEARBY FARMHOUSE FOR SOME MILK?
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK WITH IT!
KENT HURRIES OFF, BUT SHORTLY AFTER, AS HE GLANCES BACK WITH THE AID OF HIS TELESCOPIC VISION....
WHAT --?!?
WHAT CLARK HAS SEEN: ONE OF THE YOUNGSTERS HAS CLIMBED AN APPLE TREE. BUT NOW, HE LOSES HIS GRIP....
HELP! I'M GONNA FALL!
IN A FRACTION OF A SECOND, CLARK WHIPS OFF HIS OUTER GARMENTS, REVEALING HIS IDENTITY AS SUPERMAN...
GOT TO GET BACK THERE...
...QUICK!!
EEEE-EEEE!
BE WITH YOU IN A MOMENT!
CAUGHT YOU --AND IN THE NICK OF TIME!
IT'S-- SUPERMAN!
SUPERMAN! ...G-GOLLY!
2

REMEMBER TO BE CAREFUL NEXT TIME!
DON'T WORRY. I WILL! AND THANKS!
GOSH-- SUPERMAN!
IS IT REALLY YOU?
THERE ARE A LOT OF SIMPLER WAYS OF GETTING APPLES DOWN FROM A TREE I'LL ILLUSTRATE!
AS SUPERMAN SHAKES THE MIGHTY BULK OF THE TREE, DOWN CASCADE DOZENS OF APPLES....
SEE HOW SIMPLE IT IS?
SIMPLE?
HE CALLS IT SIMPLE!
I'M AFRAID HE'S RIBBING YOU!
IT WAS NICE OF YOU TO SHOW UP WHEN YOU WERE NEEDED, BUT, OUTSIDE OF THAT, I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU, ANYWAY...
YOU SHOULD BE!
YOU'D BETTER MOVE!
PUT ME DOWN!!
A MADDENED BULL!
OH--DO SOME-THING!
NOW TO DO MY BIT!
3

DOWN BEHIND THE BULL DROPS THE MAN OF STEEL--THEN...
SCATTER, KIDS!
SEIZING THE ROARING CREATURE'S TAIL, SUPERMAN SKIDS TO A STOP!
WHOA-- MY BOVINE PAL!
WHIRLING, THE ANGERED BULL CHARGES SUPERMAN, DETERMINED TO GORE HIM...!
LOOK OUT, MR. SUPERMAN! HE'LL KILL YOU!!
MAYBE HE WILL...
STRIKING SUPERMAN, THE MASSIVE BULL BOUNCES BACK AS THO IT HAD STRUCK A STONE WALL!
AND MAYBE HE WON'T!
TERRIFIED BY ITS AMAZING OPPONENT, THE BULL TURNS TAIL AND CHARGES OFF....
I GUESS HE WON'T BOTHER YOU ANYMORE.
WAIT! LET US THANK YOU!
NO THANKS NECESSARY!
4
LATER--AS CLARK KENT RETURNS....
WAIT TILL WE TELL YOU WHAT HAPPENED!
YOU WON'T BELIEVE US!
STILL LATER--AS THEY DRIVE BACK TOWARD THE CITY....
WHAT A DAY!
DID YOU LIKE IT?
IT WAS SWELL!
ELEGANT!

AFTER TAKING THE CHILDREN TO THEIR HOMES, CLARK AND LOIS RETURN TO THE DAILY PLANET OFFICE....
WELL, HOW'D IT GO?
SIMPLY GRAND!
GETTING OUT INTO THE COUNTRY MEANT SO MUCH TO THOSE UNDER-PRIVILEGED CHILDREN!
I'M GLAD THINGS TURNED OUT WELL. BECAUSE I'VE A PLAN IN MIND—THRU A CAMPAIGN IN THE PLANET, I'D LIKE TO RAISE AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO BUILD A RESORT FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED YOUNGSTERS OUT IN THE COUNTRY! CHILDREN OF THE POOR COULD SPEND THEIR VACATIONS THERE WITHOUT CHARGE. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MY PLAN?
IT'S--IT'S SWELL! WHITE, I NEVER QUITE REALIZED WHAT A BIG HEART YOU HAVE!
FOR A HARD-BOILED EDITOR, YOU'VE SURE GOT A SENTIMENTAL STREAK!
CUT OUT THE PALAVER AND GET BUSY, YOU TWO--POUND OUT SOME ARTICLES ANNOUNCING THE PLANET'S PLAN!
PLANET
FREE VACATION FARM ADVOCATED FOR UNDER-PRIVILEGED CHILDREN
DAILY PLANET
CAMPAIGN BEGINS; CONTRIBUTIONS URGED
A WEEK LATER...
WE MADE IT!
SWELL!
THE PEOPLE OF METROPOLIS ARE ALWAYS READY TO CONTRIBUTE TO A WORTHY CAUSE.
CHARLIE GRAYSON! WHEN DID YOU GET OUT OF JAIL?
YESTERDAY. I WANT TO CONTRIBUTE THIS CHECK TOWARD THE VACATION FARM CAMPAIGN. IF I COULD HAVE GONE TO A PLACE LIKE THAT WHEN I WAS A KID, MAYBE I WOULDN'T HAVE TURNED OUT TO BE A RACKETEER.
THAT'S MIGHTY BIG OF YOU, GRAYSON--ESPECIALLY SINCE IT WAS THE PLANET WHICH EXPOSED YOUR ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES.
5
SO THEY'VE RAISED THE MONEY, EH? HM-MMM! WELL...THAT FREE VACATION RESORT ISN'T A SUCCESS YET..AND IF I CAN HELP IT, IT NEVER WILL BE!!

LATE ONE EVENING AS CLARK AND LOIS CHECK OVER THE AMOUNT RAISED IN THE GREAT DRIVE FOR FUNDS....
I GUESS THAT FINISHES EVERY-THING!
ONLY ONE THING LEFT TO DO. THE MODERN BUILDING IS YET TO BE CONSTRUCTED ON THE FARM THE *PLANET* HAS PURCHASED.
WHAT'S THAT?
THE SOUND OF PISTOL SHOTS--- FROM ACROSS THE STREET...!
COME BACK, CLARK!
I--I'M GOING TO MAKE MYSELF SCARCE!
ONCE HE IS ALONE, THE APPARENTLY FRIGHTENED REPORTER CHANGES TO HIS IDENTITY AS DARING **SUPERMAN**
TROUBLE BREWING!
ONE MIGHTY LEAP LAUNCHES THE *MAN OF TOMORROW* ACROSS THE STREET TO THE BUILDING FROM WHICH THE SOUND OF SHOTS HAD COME....
THEREFORE, I'D BETTER INVESTIGATE!
HE'S DISCHARGING HIS GUN HARMLESSLY INTO THE AIR-- AT NO APPARENT TARGET. BUT **WHY???**
6
SUMMONED BY STARTLED NEIGHBORS, POLICE ARRIVE ON THE SCENE...
NO ONE HERE!
WHOEVER WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DISTURBANCE MUST HAVE FLED!

THAT WAS A CINCH!
("-I WOULDN'T BE TOO SURE ABOUT THAT!-")
WHA--? SAY... WHERE'D YOU COME FROM?
WHAT I'D WORRY ABOUT IF I WERE YOU IS WHERE YOU'RE GOING!
HEY! LEGGO!
NOT JUST YET!
HERE'S THE MAN YOU'RE LOOKING FOR, OFFICERS!
IT'S SUPERMAN!
GEE... THANKS!!
MEANWHILE...
THE DOOR OPENING... CLARK MUST BE RETURNING! WILL I GIVE HIM A PIECE OF MY MIND!
GIVE ME THAT MONEY BOX!
OH-HHH!
YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS!
GET INTO THE CLOSET!
THIS WILL KEEP YOU OCCUPIED WHILE I GET AWAY. TOODLE-OO! AND THANKS FOR THE CASH!
7

MY GOOD DEED DONE, I CAN NOW CHANGE BACK TO MY IDENTITY AS CLARK KENT!
NOW TO RETURN TO LOIS... AND TRY TO CONVINCE HER I'M FRIGHTENED SILLY!
SOMEONE BANGING ON THE CLOSET DOOR!
AND AS CLARK UNLOCKS THE DOOR....
LOIS!
THE FUND MONEY....! STOLEN....!
AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A MAN! IF THOSE DISTANT SHOTS HADN'T MADE YOU RUN OFF AND HIDE YOUR HEAD LIKE AN OSTRICH, THIS MIGHT NOT HAVE HAPPENED!
BUT...!
GET ME THE POLICE DEPARTMENT!
LATER....
AND THAT'S HOW THE VACATION FARM MONEY WAS STOLEN, SERGEANT CASEY!
WHAT WERE YOU DOING AT THE TIME OF THE CRIME?
ME? I...I.... ER.....
8

I ASKED YOU WHERE YOU DISAPPEARED TO SHORTLY BEFORE THE CRIME?
THAT'S ODD. I--I DON'T REMEMBER..
YOU DON'T, EH? THEN YOU'RE COMING TO HEADQUARTERS WITH ME FOR QUESTIONING.
BUT SURELY YOU DON'T THINK THAT CLARK....
I'M AFRAID THAT'S JUST WHAT HE DOES THINK, LOIS!
BUT AS CASEY LEADS HIS PRISONER DOWN THE HALL, CLARK BREAKS FREE...
I'M INNOCENT, I TELL YOU!
COME BACK, YOU FOOL! IF YOU ARE INNOCENT, YOU SHOULD HAVE NO DIFFICULTY PROVING IT!
I--I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY!
I'LL HAVE YOU IN ANOTHER SECOND!
STOP, CLARK! STOP!
BUT AS CLARK TURNS THE CORNER, HE INCREASES SPEED SO THAT HE EQUALS THE PACE OF LIGHT ITSELF...!
MY OPPORTUNITY TO SPEED UP!
POOR CASEY! I CAN JUST SEE THE ASTONISHED EXPRESSION ON HIS FACE AS HE TURNS THAT CORNER!
NOWHERE IN SIGHT! CLARK'S--DISAPPEARED!
WHERE CAN HE HAVE VANISHED TO?
IN THE ALLEY BESIDE THE BUILDING, CLARK KENT REMOVES HIS OUTER GARMENTS, TRANSFORMING HIMSELF TO DYNAMIC SUPERMAN....
KENT SEEMS TO BE IN QUITE A MESS. IT'S UP TO SUPERMAN TO CLEAR HIS NAME AND GET BACK THE STOLEN FUNDS!
9

AS THE MAN OF STEEL STREAKS TOWARD THE CITY JAIL....
IT SEEMS MORE THAN MERE COINCIDENCE THAT THAT MAN WAS RAISING A DISTURBANCE ACROSS THE STREET JUST AT THE TIME THE PLANET WAS ROBBED!
AND AT THE JAIL...
I-I WAS JUST CELEBRATING!
WELL, NEXT TIME YOU CELEBRATE BY SHOOTING OFF A GUN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, YOU'LL GET AN EVEN STIFFER FINE!
THE MAN DEPARTS, UNAWARE THAT A FIGURE TRAILS HIM FROM A VANTAGE POINT HIGH IN THE SKY...
THAT WAS EASY! NOW TO COLLECT!
LATER... AS SUPERMAN OBSERVES THE FELLOW ENTER A BUILDING...
HE MAY COLLECT MORE THAN HE EXPECTS!
INSIDE THE BUILDING, THE MAN RECEIVES HIS PAYMENT THRU A SMALL SLOT IN A STEEL DOOR...
YOU DID YOUR JOB WELL. WHILE YOU CREATED THAT DISTURBANCE, I WAS ABLE TO ROB THE DAILY PLANET WITHOUT INTERFERENCE.
THIS IS WHAT I CALL EASY MONEY!
STILL THINK IT'S EASY?
SUPERMAN!
ROB HELPLESS YOUTH OF ITS CHANCE FOR HAPPINESS, WILL YOU?
NO! DON'T HURT ME! IT'S THE GUY WHO HIRED ME WHO'S TO BLAME! HE...!
BEFORE SUPERMAN'S CAPTIVE CAN REVEAL MORE, A BARRAGE OF BULLETS CUTS HIM SHORT...
YEEE-EEAHHH!
BANG! BANG!
10

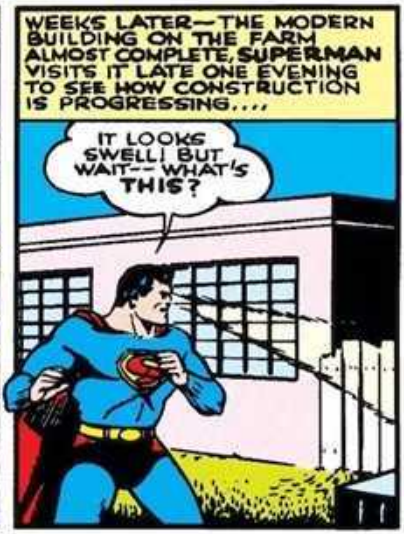
HE'S DEAD!
STEEL DOOR OR NO STEEL DOOR, I'M GOING TO GET THAT MURDERER!
DOWN CRASHES THE TWISTED STEEL DOOR BEFORE THE MAN OF TOMORROW'S ATTACK!
FLIGHT IS USELESS!
YOU HAVEN'T GOT ME YET!
IF YOU WANT IT-- GET IT!
THE MONEY BOX!
ABANDONING PURSUIT OF HIS MASKED FOE, SUPERMAN LEAPS OUT THE WINDOW...
TIME TO ATTEND TO HIM LATER!
DOWN STREAKS THE MAN OF STEEL AFTER THE FALLING BOX...
WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT RIGHT NOW IS TO RECOVER THOSE FUNDS!
THE HEAVY BOX HURTLES TOWARD A BABY CARRIAGE, NOW ONLY A FEW FEET AWAY FROM THE BUGGY'S HELPLESS OCCUPANT....
EEE-EE!!
WHEW! COULDN'T HAVE BEEN A CLOSER RESCUE!
11

LEAPING BACK TO THE EMPTY OFFICE, SUPERMAN FINDS....
HE'S GONE! HAD PLENTY OF TIME TO MAKE GOOD HIS ESCAPE!

LATER... AT THE POLICE STATION
HEY, WAIT! YOU SAY THIS IS THE MONEY STOLEN FROM THE DAILY PLANET? HOW'D YOU RECOVER IT?
THAT'S MY SECRET. BUT REST ASSURED THAT CLARK KENT IS INNOCENT!

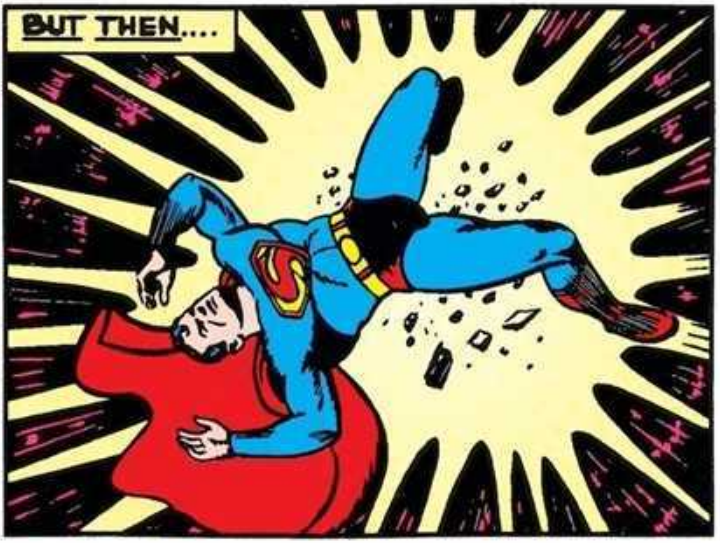
LOIS HAS A VISITOR....
I--I DON'T KNOW WHAT GOT INTO ME. I LOST MY HEAD— AND RAN...
YOU WERE A PERFECT BLOCKHEAD! YOU'RE GOING TO THE STATION WITH ME AND CLEAR YOURSELF!

THAT WAS A VERY FOOLISH THING YOU DID, CLARK. UNDER THE LAW, I HAD THE RIGHT TO SHOOT AT YOU. I HOPE YOU'LL KNOW BETTER IN THE FUTURE!
I ASSURE YOU-- I WILL!
YOU'D BETTER!

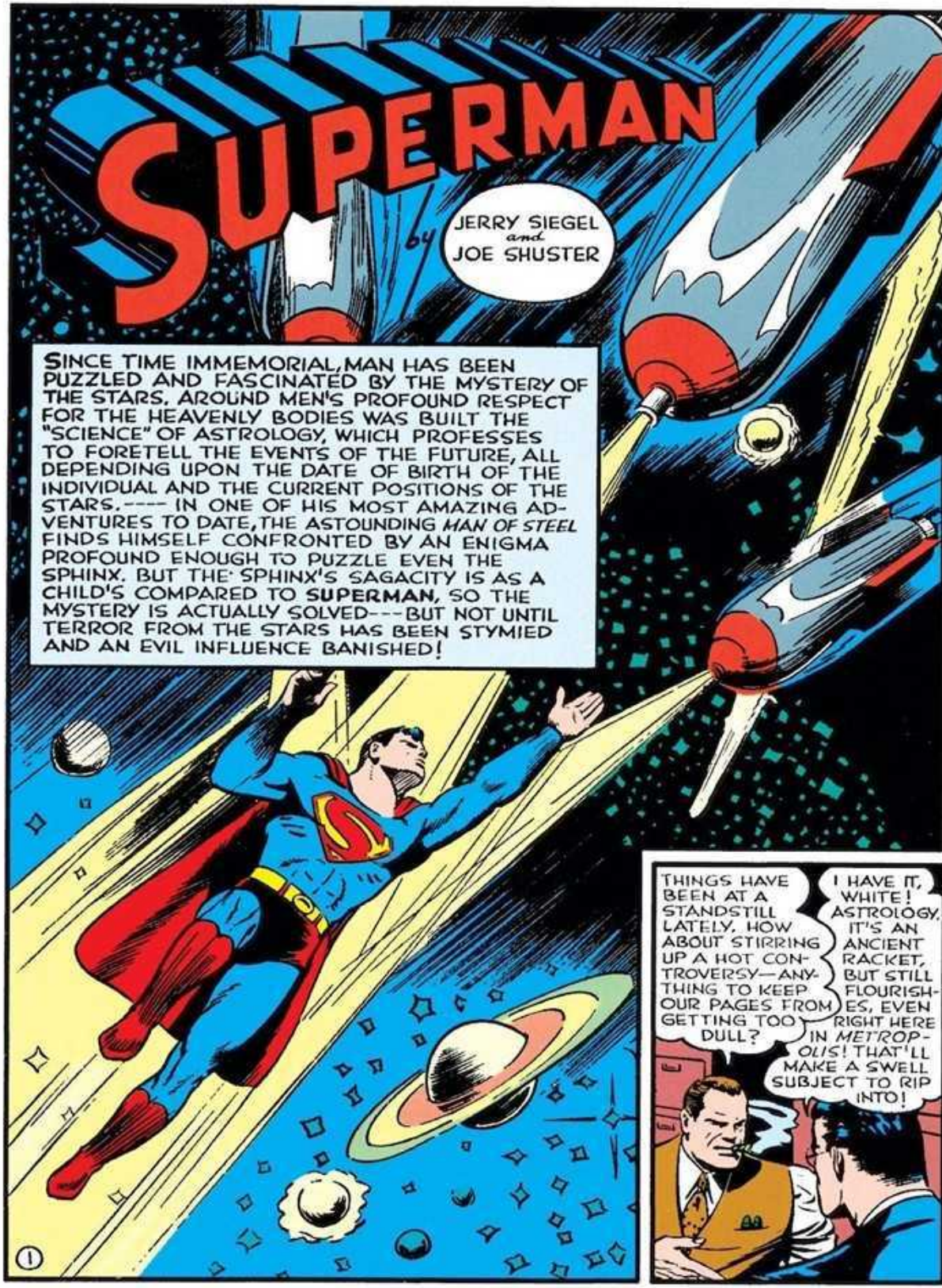

WEEKS LATER—THE MODERN BUILDING ON THE FARM ALMOST COMPLETE, SUPERMAN VISITS IT LATE ONE EVENING TO SEE HOW CONSTRUCTION IS PROGRESSING....
IT LOOKS SWELL! BUT WAIT-- WHAT'S THIS?

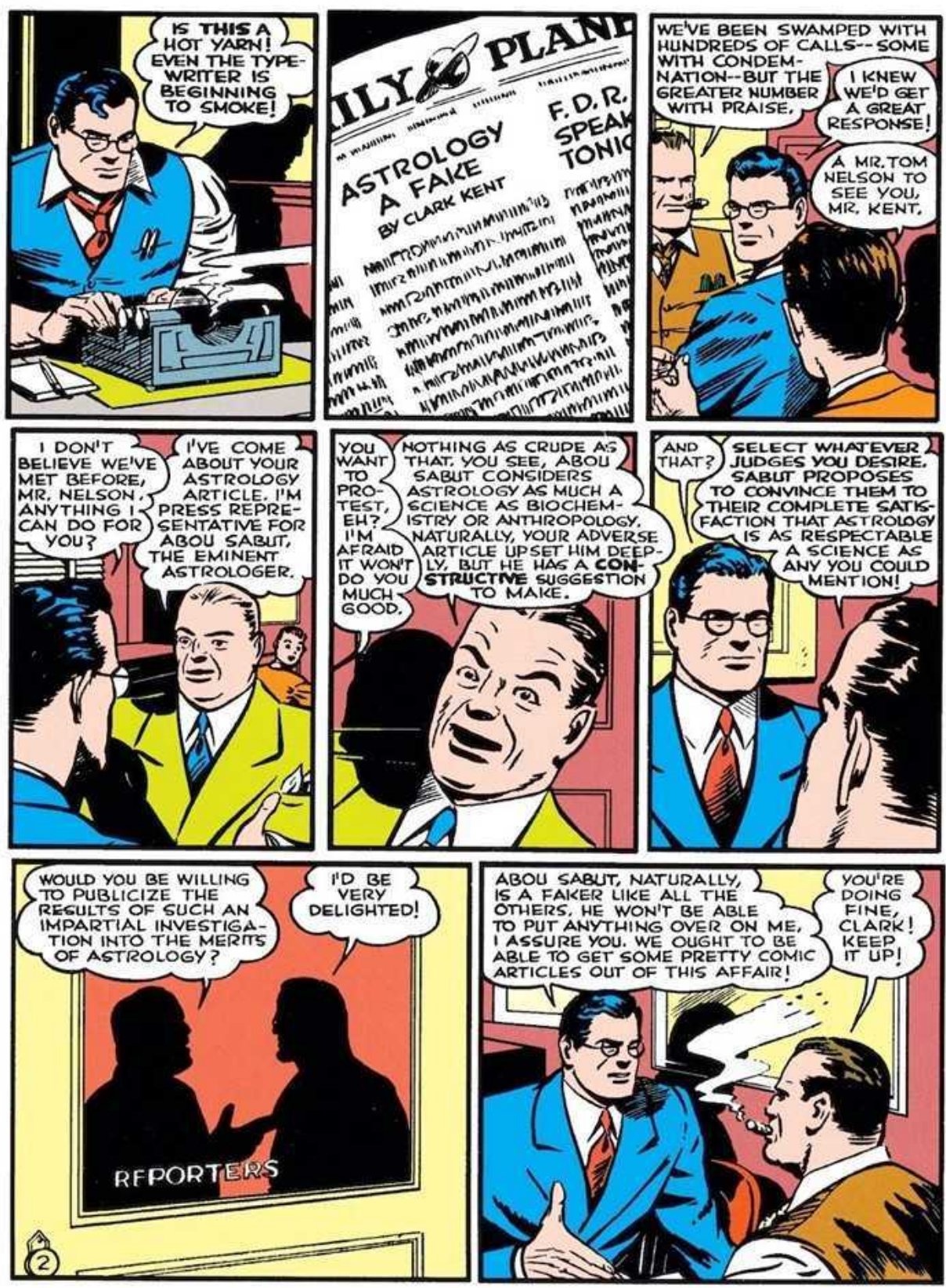
SUPERMAN'S MARVELOUS X-RAY VISION REVEALS TO HIM....
A TIME-BOMB!

SKYWARD LEAPS THE MAN OF TOMORROW WITH HIS DEADLY CARGO...
GOT TO MAKE TRACKS!
12


BUT THEN....

DUE TO HIS IMPENETRABLE SKIN, THE MAN OF STEEL ESCAPES THE BLAST UNHARMED...
THE MASKED MAN AGAIN--FLEEING.., HE MUST BE THE ONE WHO PLANTED THAT BOMB!
SIGHTING SUPERMAN PLUMMETING DOWN BEFORE HIM, THE RUNNING MAN FIRES FRANTICALLY UP AT HIM...
NO! NO! KEEP AWAY!
YOU'RE WASTING YOUR BULLETS!
OO-OOOFF!
END OF THE LINE FOR YOU!
AS SUPERMAN REMOVES HIS FOE'S MASK...
YOU'RE CHARLIE GRAYSON, RACKETEER, WHOSE ACTIVITIES WERE EXPOSED BY THE DAILY PLANET!
THAT'S WHY I WANTED TO WRECK THE PLANET'S PET PHILANTHROPY... FOR REVENGE! AND I'D HAVE SUCCEEDED, IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR YOU!
SUPERMAN STUNTS DIZZILY...
AND WILL YOU CONFESS TO SERGEANT CASEY?
YES! I'LL CONFESS EVERYTHING--EVERYTHING!
13
LATER--SUPERMAN LEAPS AWAY FROM THE POLICE STATION AS GRAYSON CONFESSES....
WHAT WOULD THE POLICE FORCE DO WITHOUT YOU?
NO DOUBT GET ALONG VERY NICELY!
WEEKS LATER... AS CLARK KENT AND LOIS LANE OBSERVE UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN ENJOYING THE BENEFITS OF THE FREE VACATION FARM...
DOESN'T IT MAKE YOU FEEL PROUD TO KNOW YOU HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS FREE VACATION SPOT FOR KIDS?
IT CERTAINLY DOES, BUT WE MUSTN'T FORGET THAT IF SUPERMAN HADN'T RECOVERED THE STOLEN FUNDS, ALL OUR PLANS WOULD HAVE BEEN BLASTED!
THE END


SUPERMAN
by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL, MAN HAS BEEN PUZZLED AND FASCINATED BY THE MYSTERY OF THE STARS. AROUND MEN'S PROFOUND RESPECT FOR THE HEAVENLY BODIES WAS BUILT THE "SCIENCE" OF ASTROLOGY, WHICH PROFESSES TO FORETELL THE EVENTS OF THE FUTURE, ALL DEPENDING UPON THE DATE OF BIRTH OF THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE CURRENT POSITIONS OF THE STARS.---- IN ONE OF HIS MOST AMAZING ADVENTURES TO DATE, THE ASTOUNDING *MAN OF STEEL* FINDS HIMSELF CONFRONTED BY AN ENIGMA PROFOUND ENOUGH TO PUZZLE EVEN THE SPHINX. BUT THE SPHINX'S SAGACITY IS AS A CHILD'S COMPARED TO **SUPERMAN**, SO THE MYSTERY IS ACTUALLY SOLVED---BUT NOT UNTIL TERROR FROM THE STARS HAS BEEN STYMIED AND AN EVIL INFLUENCE BANISHED!
THINGS HAVE BEEN AT A STANDSTILL LATELY. HOW ABOUT STIRRING UP A HOT CONTROVERSY—ANYTHING TO KEEP OUR PAGES FROM GETTING TOO DULL?
I HAVE IT, WHITE! ASTROLOGY. IT'S AN ANCIENT RACKET, BUT STILL FLOURISHES, EVEN RIGHT HERE IN *METROPOLIS*! THAT'LL MAKE A SWELL SUBJECT TO RIP INTO!
1


IS THIS A HOT YARN! EVEN THE TYPE-WRITER IS BEGINNING TO SMOKE!
ILY PLANE
ASTROLOGY A FAKE
BY CLARK KENT
F. D. R. SPEAK TONIC
WE'VE BEEN SWAMPED WITH HUNDREDS OF CALLS--SOME WITH CONDEMNATION--BUT THE GREATER NUMBER WITH PRAISE.
I KNEW WE'D GET A GREAT RESPONSE!
A MR. TOM NELSON TO SEE YOU, MR. KENT.
I DON'T BELIEVE WE'VE MET BEFORE, MR. NELSON. ANYTHING I CAN DO FOR YOU?
I'VE COME ABOUT YOUR ASTROLOGY ARTICLE. I'M PRESS REPRESENTATIVE FOR ABOU SABUT, THE EMINENT ASTROLOGER.
YOU WANT TO PROTEST, EH? I'M AFRAID IT WON'T DO YOU MUCH GOOD.
NOTHING AS CRUDE AS THAT. YOU SEE, ABOU SABUT CONSIDERS ASTROLOGY AS MUCH A SCIENCE AS BIOCHEMISTRY OR ANTHROPOLOGY. NATURALLY, YOUR ADVERSE ARTICLE UPSET HIM DEEPLY, BUT HE HAS A CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTION TO MAKE.
AND THAT?
SELECT WHATEVER JUDGES YOU DESIRE. SABUT PROPOSES TO CONVINCE THEM TO THEIR COMPLETE SATISFACTION THAT ASTROLOGY IS AS RESPECTABLE A SCIENCE AS ANY YOU COULD MENTION!
WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO PUBLICIZE THE RESULTS OF SUCH AN IMPARTIAL INVESTIGATION INTO THE MERITS OF ASTROLOGY?
I'D BE VERY DELIGHTED!
REPORTERS
2
ABOU SABUT, NATURALLY, IS A FAKER LIKE ALL THE OTHERS. HE WON'T BE ABLE TO PUT ANYTHING OVER ON ME, I ASSURE YOU. WE OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO GET SOME PRETTY COMIC ARTICLES OUT OF THIS AFFAIR!
YOU'RE DOING FINE, CLARK! KEEP IT UP!

LATER THAT AFTERNOON...
MEET ABOU SABUT!
SO YOU DOUBT ASTROLOGY'S AUTHENTICITY?
I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE. THESE GENTLEMEN WITH ME SHARE MY DOUBTS.
ASTROLOGY IS A FRAUD—BUT NO MORE A FAKE THAN YOU ARE!
I REFUSE!
YOU LEARNED ASTRONOMERS SICKEN ME, PROFESSOR DERMA. WE SHALL SEE WHO IS AND WHO IS NOT THE CHARLATAN. TELL ME YOUR BIRTHDATE.
TELL HIM, PROFESSOR! IF HIS FORECAST FAILS, IT WILL ONLY LEAD TO HIS OWN DOWNFALL!
HM-MM. VERY INTERESTING. ACCORDING TO MY CALCULATIONS, PROFESSOR, YOU HAVEN'T MORE THAN FIVE MINUTES TO LIVE!
I WON'T STAND FOR ANY MORE OF THIS NONSENSE! I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE!
WAIT! DON'T YOU WANT TO SEE HIM PROVED WRONG?
DISREGARDING CLARK'S PLEAS, THE PROFESSOR HURRIES OUT OF THE DAILY PLANET BUILDING INTO THE STREET'S HEAVY TRAFFIC...
NONSENSE... ABSOLUTELY NONSENSE...!
SUDDENLY, A TRUCK LOOMS OVER THE PROFESSOR... DESPERATELY, HE SEEKS TO ESCAPE IT-- THERE IS A SICKENING CRASH...!
3
OFF SPEEDS THE TRUCK WITHOUT PAUSING, LEAVING A STILL, CRUMPLED FIGURE IN THE STREET BEHIND IT...
BUT CLARK KENT HAS WITNESSED THE STARTLING SIGHT! NOW HE WHIPS OFF HIS OUTER GARMENTS, REVEALING HIMSELF IN THE IDENTITY OF SUPERMAN...
A HIT-AND-RUN DRIVER! HE WON'T GET FAR!

AFTER THE FLEEING TRUCK STREAKS THE *MAN OF TOMORROW*....
IT'LL TAKE BUT A FEW MOMENTS TO OVERTAKE IT!
AWARE THAT HE IS BEING PURSUED, THE TRUCK-DRIVER LEAPS FREE OF HIS VEHICLE....
...DELIBERATELY SENDING IT SPEEDING INTO THE MIDST OF A THICK CROWD...
MY FIRST DUTY... TO PROTECT THE INNOCENT BYSTANDERS!
SEIZING THE SPEEDING AUTO, **SUPERMAN** LEAPS ALOFT WITH IT...
OUT OF THE DANGER ZONE!
BUT SUDDENLY THE TRUCK SPRINGS INTO FLAMES...
THIS IS A HOT ASSIGN-MENT!
DOWN INTO THE RIVER THE *MAN OF STEEL* HURLS THE FLAMING VEHICLE...AND AS IT STRIKES WATER, IT EX-PLODES INTO FRAGMENTS...
AND THAT'S THE END OF EXHIBIT A!
4
NO SIGN OF THE HIT-AND-RUN DRIVER! HE MADE GOOD HIS ESCAPE!
LEAPING BACK ATOP THE *PLANET BUILDING*, **SUPER-MAN** ONCE AGAIN CHANGES BACK TO HIS IDENTITY AS THE MEEK NEWSPAPER REPORTER....
GOT TO GET BACK AS KENT BEFORE THEY GET SUSPICIOUS OVER MY ABSENCE!

CLARK KENT REACHES THE STREET AS PROFESSOR DERMA IS PLACED INSIDE A POLICE AMBULANCE CAR...
IS HE --??
HE'S-- DEAD!
AND WITHIN FIVE MINUTES... JUST AS I PREDICTED!
COINCIDENCE... MERE COINCIDENCE!!
JUST COINCIDENCE? I'VE ALREADY MADE YOUR ASTROLOGICAL FORECAST, WARREN... ONLY TO DISCOVER YOUR JEWELRY STORE IS TO BE PILLAGED... AND AT ABOUT THIS MOMENT!
THAT'S ABSOLUTE NONSENSE!
SO FAR THE ASTROLOGIST HASN'T FAILED!
GOING SO SOON, MR. WARREN?
I--I JUST REMEMBERED AN IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT.
("-MY SUPER-SENSITIVE HEARING... DETECTING AN INTERESTING POLICE CALL!-")
("-THIS ASTROLOGER IS UNDOUBTEDLY TALKING THRU HIS HAT... BUT...I CAN'T AFFORD TO TAKE CHANCES!-")
PROCEED TO WARREN JEWELRY COMPANY... BURGLAR ALARM FLASH...!
A FEW MOMENTS EARLIER, ARMED THUGS MADE THEIR APPEARANCE AT WARREN'S JEWELRY STORE...
UP WITH YOUR HANDS!
AND NOT ONE FALSE MOVE OUTTA YOU!
I KN-KNOW BETTER!
BUT, DELIBERATELY, THE CASHIER STEPS ON AN ALARM BUTTON....
PLEASE EXCUSE ME WHILE I LOOK AT SOME RESEARCH MATERIAL.
ONLY TOO GLAD TO OBLIGE, MR. KENT.
5
CHANGING TO HIS SUPERMAN COSTUME, KENT SPEEDS OFF ALONG THE CITY'S STREETS..
IF THESE INCIDENTS KEEP UP, EVEN I MAY BEGIN TO BELIEVE THERE'S SOMETHING TO ASTROLOGY!

LADEN WITH LOOT, THE BANDITS BACK TOWARD THE JEWELRY STORE'S ENTRANCE. BUT AT THAT MOMENT THE CASHIER SUMMONS UP ENOUGH NERVE TO ATTEMPT RESISTANCE!
STOP! STOP WHERE YOU ARE!
I WARNED YOU TO BEHAVE!
TRY ARGUING WITH THIS BOMB!
NO! NO!!
NO TIME FOR THE CONVENTIONAL ENTRANCE!
GOT THE BOMB!
ONE INSTANT LATER, SUPERMAN OVERTAKES THE BOMB-WIELDER...
I BELIEVE YOU DROPPED THIS! WANT IT BACK?
TAKE IT AWAY!
6
AS THE THIEVES DASH FOR THEIR GETAWAY CAR, SUPERMAN HURLS THE BOMB AT IT...
YOU WON'T GET AWAY SO EASILY!
DESTROYING THE VEHICLE!!
NOT A BAD TOSS!

AS THE CROOKS DASH OFF IN FRANTIC FLIGHT, SUPERMAN SEIZES AN ARMFUL OF BARREL HOOPS....
MAY I BORROW THESE?
THE WINDUP!
NEAT!
NOT BAD!
UH-HH--ULP!!
CONK!
RUNNING AT GREAT SPEED, SUPERMAN PROPELS THE HOOPS ALONG THE STREET AT A FAST CLIP...
UM-MM! WE'RE MAKING GOOD TIME!
UP THE STEPS OF POLICE HEADQUARTERS HE BOUNCES THEM, AND INTO THE STATION.
HERE ARE THE MEN YOU WANT IN THE ROBBERY OF THE WARREN JEWELRY COMPANY.
THANKS, SUPERMAN!
WHAT A SUPER-COP HE'D MAKE!
LATER...AT THE PLANET, AFTER SUPERMAN HAS AGAIN ASSUMED HIS IDENTITY AS CLARK KENT...
I'VE JUST HEARD A NEWS FLASH CONFIRMING MY PREDICTION.--IF THERE'S ANYTHING ELSE I CAN DO FOR YOU, YOU'LL FIND ME IN MY OBSERVATORY!
THE MAN'S A MARVEL
7

SO—YOU WERE GOING TO MAKE A FOOL OUT OF ABOU SABUT. EH?
I—I'M SORRY THE OUTCOME DIDN'T RUN ACCORDING TO HOYLE.
THERE'S SOMETHING DISTINCTLY FISHY ABOUT THIS WHOLE MESS! I WANT YOU TO HOP DOWN TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS AND LEARN WHAT THOSE BANDITS HAVE SPILLED.
RIGHT AWAY, BOSS!
MOMENTS LATER...A COLORFULLY COSTUMED FIGURE STREAKS SKYWARD FROM ATOP THE NEWSPAPER BUILDING...
I CAN ACCOMPLISH MORE AS SUPERMAN!
LATER...OUTSIDE OF THE POLICE STATION, THE MAN OF TOMORROW MAKES USE OF HIS MARVELOUS X-RAY VISION...
JUST IN TIME TO WITNESS AN INTERESTING DEVELOPMENT!
...TO SIGHT ATTORNEY STAN EMERSON PUTTING UP BOND FOR THE BANDITS...
YOU WILL PLEASE RELEASE THE PRISONERS.
REMEMBER, IF THEY SKIP BEFORE THE TRIAL, THE BONDS WILL BE FORFEIT!
AS EMERSON DRIVES OFF, A LITHE FIGURE CATCHES UP TO AND RUNS ALONGSIDE HIS AUTO
PULL OVER!
NO!
SUPERMAN FORCES THE AUTO TO A STOP WITH HIS BARE HANDS...!
LIKE BULLDOGGING A STEER!
NOW...TELL ME WHO PUT YOU UP TO REPRESENTING THOSE THUGS?
IT...IT WOULDN'T BE ETHICAL FOR ME TO TELL YOU.
8

ETHICAL? WHY, YOU MISERABLE LITTLE AMBULANCE CHASER... YOU HAVEN'T ONE OUNCE OF ETHICS IN YOUR WHOLE BODY!
LET GO! YOU'LL HURT ME!
THAT'S WHAT I'D CALL A GOOD IDEA..!
RACING AROUND THE CAR, SUPERMAN CATCHES THE FALLING FIGURE...
AWK!
I WONDER HOW YOU'D LOOK SPATTERED ON THE PAVEMENT?
'ROUND AND 'ROUND THE AUTO SPEEDS THE MAN OF STEEL IN A GREAT CIRCLE, HEAVING HIS CAPTIVE'S FIGURE BACK AND FORTH...
LET'S PLAY "CATCH"!
EEE-YAHH! STOP IT! STOP IT!!
I'LL--I'LL TELL YOU!--(GASP!)--I'M RETAINED BY THE LEADING UNDERWORLD MOBS... IT'S MY JOB TO SPRING THEM WHENEVER THEY'RE CAUGHT.
MY ADVICE TO YOU IS TO LEAVE THIS CITY AS FAST AS YOUR FEET CAN CARRY YOU,-- BEFORE YOU LEAVE FEET FIRST!
MOMENTS LATER, THE MAN OF TOMORROW STREAKS IN THRU THE WINDOW OF EMERSON'S OFFICE...
I'VE A HUNCH METROPOLIS HAS SEEN THE LAST OF MR. STAN EMERSON!
LOOKING THRU THE LAWYER'S CONFIDENTIAL FILES, HE DISCOVERS....
A NUMBER OF PAYMENTS TO EMERSON FROM ABOU SABUT!
SO SABUT HAS UNDERWORLD CONNECTIONS! NO WONDER THOSE PREDICTIONS OF HIS CAME TRUE. HE PAID THE THUGS TO MAKE HIS FORECASTS ACTUALLY HAPPEN!
9

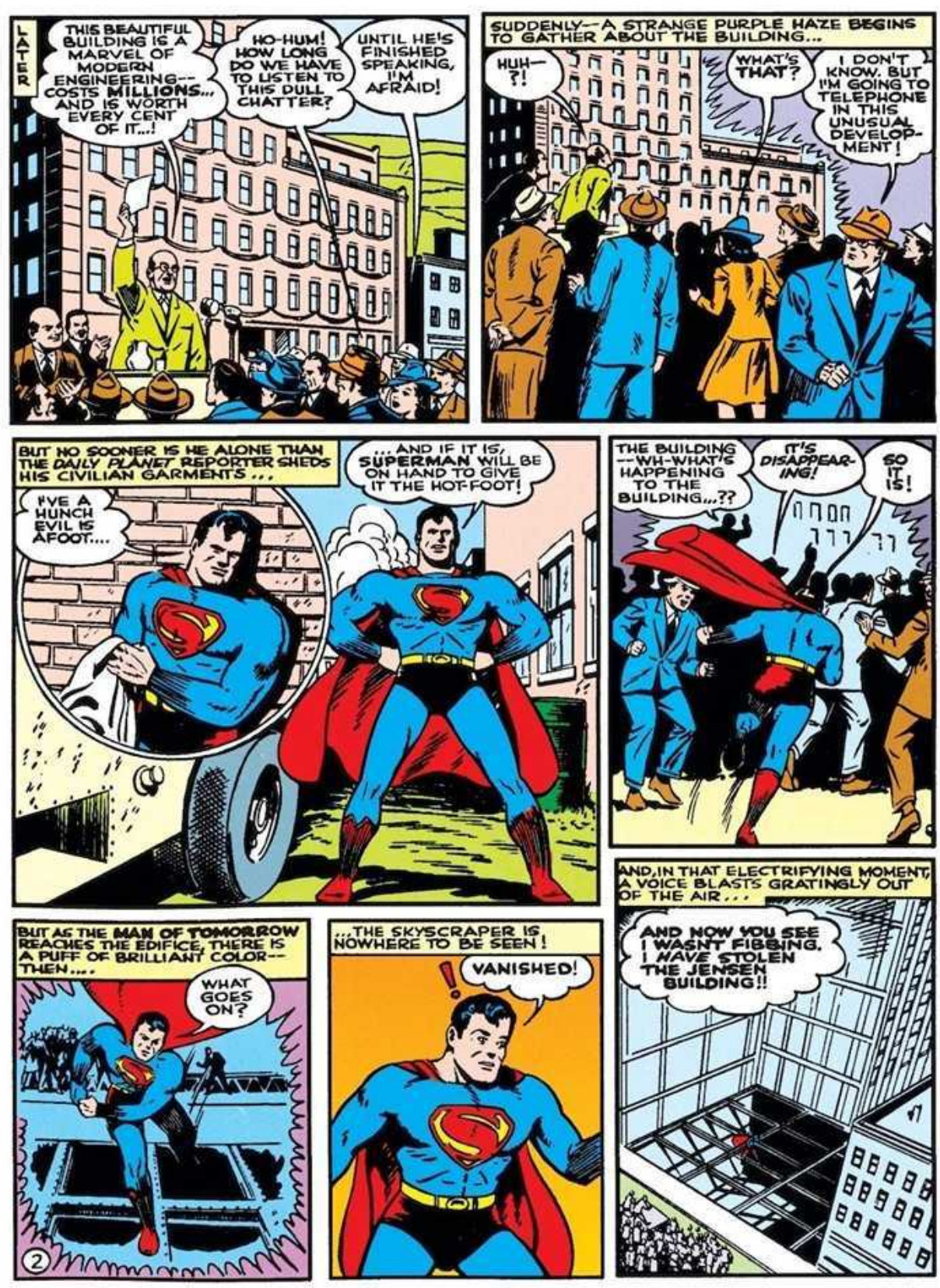
ABOU SABUT'S CLEVER-- TOO CLEVER FOR HIS OWN GOOD!
QUITE AN ELABORATE OBSERVATORY FOR A FAKE ASTROLOGER TO HAVE!
SUPERMAN! --WH-WHAT D-D-DO YOU W-WANT??
I WANT MY FUTURE FORE-TOLD!
SUPERMAN NOTES TO HIS ASTONISHMENT THAT ABOU SABUT IS SURPRISINGLY IGNORANT OF ASTROLOGICAL LORE...
THAT'S STRANGE, I--I SEEM TO BE EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTY WITH YOUR HOROSCOPE
DON'T BOTHER, THAT'S NOT THE REAL REASON I CAME.
("-PERHAPS HIS CLUMSINESS IS DUE TO FRIGHT.-")
I'VE COME TO METE OUT TO YOU THE JUSTICE YOU DESERVE-- YOU MURDERER!
KEEP AWAY!!
AS SUPERMAN NEARLY REACHES THE PLATFORM...
FALL, BLAST YOU --FALL!
WHY...!
SABUT SLAMS A STEEL DOOR IN SUPERMAN'S FACE, BUT LAUNCHING HIMSELF AGAINST IT, SUPERMAN SMASHES DOWN THE DOOR IN A MIGHTY EFFORT....
WHAT'S A STEEL DOOR TO ME?
GO AWAY! I WARN YOU--GO!
AND I'M STILL COMING AFTER YOU!
10

A DESPERATE LEAP... SUPERMAN CATCHES THE PLATFORM WITH ONE HAND...
I'LL CRUSH YOUR FINGERS!
CAREFUL YOU DON'T HURT YOUR FOOT!
WHO TAUGHT YOU THOSE BAD MANNERS?
EE-YIPE...!
DESPERATE, THE ASTROLOGER CRAWLS OUT ON THE OBSERVATORY ROOF'S SLOPING SURFACE...
AWAY... I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY!!!
YOU CAN'T ESCAPE ME!
YOUR LAST CHANCE! BACK--OR I'LL SHOOT!
ABOU SABUT FIRES! BUT AS THE BULLETS BOUNCE OFF THE MAN OF TOMORROW'S IMPENETRABLE SKIN, THE ASTROLOGER LOSES HIS FOOTHOLD...
YII-II-II!
HELP! HELP!
NOT THAT YOU DESERVE ANY...!
I'VE CAUGHT YOU! NOW ARE YOU GOING TO CONFESS EVERYTHING OR...??
YOU HIRED THUGS TO COMMIT CRIMES, THEN PRETENDED TO FORECAST THOSE CRIMES THRU ASTROLOGY, DIDN'T YOU?
NO, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, I--I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING!
BUT BEFORE THE ASTROLOGER CAN SPEAK...
AAAGH-HH!
HE'S SHOT!
11

WHIRLING, SUPERMAN RACES TOWARD THE SOUND OF THE SHOT...
SOMEONE WANTED SABUT SILENCED!
AND THERE HE RUNS INTO THE OBSERVATORY--A MASKED MAN...!
GOT YOU!
NOT YET!!!
THE MASKED FIGURE PULLS A SWITCH AND THE GREAT TELESCOPE FALLS UPON THE MAN OF STEEL...
THE END OF SUPERMAN!
BUT, UNKNOWN TO THE KILLER SUPERMAN IS BURROWING TOWARD HIM UNDERGROUND..
I'M VERY MUCH ALIVE!!
UHH-HHH!
12
AS SUPERMAN REMOVES HIS CAPTIVE'S MASK...
YES...I'M TOM NELSON! UNKNOWN TO THE WORLD, IT WAS I WHO WAS THE BRAINS BEHIND ABOU SABUT, DID ALL HIS ACTUAL ASTROLOGICAL WORK. BUT HE HAD THE BIG NAME AND KEPT MOST OF THE PROFITS. MY SCHEME WAS TO MAKE IT LOOK AS THO HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CRIMES. THEN, AFTER HE WAS RAILROADED TO PRISON, I INTENDED TO SEIZE HIS DOUGH.
BUT IT'S YOU, NELSON, WHO ARE GOING TO PRISON!
LATER--AT THE DAILY PLANET...
YOU UNCOVERED A SWELL YARN, CLARK, BUT DON'T TRY TO TELL ME THAT IT WASN'T PURELY ACCIDENTAL ON YOUR PART!
WE CAN'T ALL BE SUPERMEN!
THE END

SUPERMAN
JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
SINCE THE BEGINNING OF TIME, SCHEMING SCOUNDRELS HAVE WRACKED THEIR BRAINS FOR PLOTS TO SUCCESSFULLY AMASS ILLEGAL FORTUNES. IT REMAINS FOR MISTER SINISTER, EVILDOER EXTRAORDINARY, TO CREATE THE MOST UNUSUAL RACKET OF THEM ALL IN THE ASTONISHING..."CASE OF THE RUNAWAY SKY-SCRAPERS"!

PERRY WHITE, EDITOR
DAILY PLANET
METROPOLIS, U.S.A.
THE JENSEN BUILDING NOW IS HERE. BUT SOON, DEAR PLANET, IT'LL DISAPPEAR!
--MISTER SINISTER
CAN'T YOU FIND ANYTHING ELSE TO DO, CHIEF, THAN PAY ATTENTION TO A SCREWBALL WHO WRITES FANTASTIC POETRY AND SIGNS IT MISTER SINISTER?
I'M SURE IT'S JUST SOME HARMLESS CRANK.
I'M TAKING NO CHANCES! THE NEWLY COMPLETED JENSEN BUILDING IS TO BE DEDICATED THIS AFTERNOON. I WANT BOTH OF YOU TO COVER THE CEREMONY.
1


LATER
THIS BEAUTIFUL BUILDING IS A MARVEL OF MODERN ENGINEERING--COSTS MILLIONS... AND IS WORTH EVERY CENT OF IT...!
HO-HUM! HOW LONG DO WE HAVE TO LISTEN TO THIS DULL CHATTER?
UNTIL HE'S FINISHED SPEAKING, I'M AFRAID!
SUDDENLY--A STRANGE PURPLE HAZE BEGINS TO GATHER ABOUT THE BUILDING...
HUH--?!
WHAT'S THAT?
I DON'T KNOW. BUT I'M GOING TO TELEPHONE IN THIS UNUSUAL DEVELOPMENT!
BUT NO SOONER IS HE ALONE THAN THE DAILY PLANET REPORTER SHEDS HIS CIVILIAN GARMENTS...
I'VE A HUNCH EVIL IS AFOOT....
...AND IF IT IS, SUPERMAN WILL BE ON HAND TO GIVE IT THE HOT-FOOT!
THE BUILDING --WH-WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE BUILDING...??
IT'S DISAPPEARING!
SO IT IS!
BUT AS THE MAN OF TOMORROW REACHES THE EDIFICE, THERE IS A PUFF OF BRILLIANT COLOR--THEN....
WHAT GOES ON?
2
...THE SKYSCRAPER IS NOWHERE TO BE SEEN!
VANISHED!
AND, IN THAT ELECTRIFYING MOMENT, A VOICE BLASTS GRATINGLY OUT OF THE AIR...
AND NOW YOU SEE I WASN'T FIBBING. I HAVE STOLEN THE JENSEN BUILDING!!

RETURNING TO HIS IDENTITY AS CLARK KENT, THE REPORTER REJOINS LOIS....
THE LINE WAS BUSY!
THEN WE'D BETTER HURRY! WE'VE GOT TO GET THIS STORY INTO PRINT QUICK!
BUT WHEN THEY REACH THE PLANET...
WHITE! THAT BUILDING DID DISAPPEAR!
YES, I'VE HEARD ABOUT IT. BUT THERE'S A NEW DEVELOPMENT. MISTER SINISTER DEMANDS $100,000 RANSOM FROM THE SKYSCRAPER'S BUILDERS, OR THEY'LL NEVER SEE THEIR BUILDING AGAIN!
WHAT A RACKET! STEALING BUILDINGS FOR RANSOM! BUT HOW DOES MISTER SINISTER DO IT?
WHEN HE IS ALONE, CLARK SWITCHES TO THE MAN OF STEEL ONCE MORE...
HERE I GO AGAIN!
A POWERFUL LEAP LAUNCHES HIM SKYWARD...
ACE CONSTRUCTIONS, INC. OWNS THE JENSEN BUILDING... THEREFORE, IT'S MY NEXT STOP...!
MOMENTS LATER...THE MAN OF TOMORROW ALIGHTS OUTSIDE THE OFFICE BUILDING WHICH HOUSES ACE CONSTRUCTIONS, INC. AND AVAILS HIMSELF OF HIS SUPER-ACUTE HEARING...
A BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING IN SESSION--AND THEY'RE DISCUSSING THE DEMANDED RANSOM...!
GENTLEMEN, WE HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE! WE MUST PAY THE RANSOM DEMAND TO PROTECT OUR INVESTMENT!
BUT HOW DO WE KNOW THIS MISTER SINISTER WILL KEEP HIS WORD?
WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE THAT CHANCE!
MAY I ADD A FEW WORDS, PLEASE?
S-SUPERMAN!
BY ALL MEANS!
3

I'M GOING TO ASK YOU GENTLEMEN TO BE PATIENT--GIVEN TIME, I MAY BE ABLE TO GET YOUR BUILDING BACK FOR YOU.
BUT SUPPOSE YOU FAIL?
THERE'S MORE THAN JUST YOUR BUILDING AT STAKE, IF YOU CAPITULATE TO MISTER SINISTER'S DEMANDS, HIS DEMANDS WILL GROW, NOT JUST A FEW BUILDINGS BUT THE FATE OF A NATION MAY BE AT STAKE!
LISTEN...
LOOKING OUT THRU THE WINDOW WITH THE OTHERS, SUPERMAN SIGHTS A GIANT WAVERING FIGURE HIGH IN THE SKY.
HEED NOT SUPERMAN, HE CANT ADMINISTER SUCCESSFUL OPPOSITION TO MISTER SINISTER!
UP HURTLES SUPERMAN--UP TOWARD THE HUGE, GRINNING FEATURES OF WEIRD MISTER SINISTER...!
I'VE BEEN LONGING TO TACKLE THIS BIRD!
BUT THE MAN OF TOMORROW FINDS HIMSELF SAILING THRU SPACE!
HIS FIGURE--IMMATERIAL! WHAT IS HE--A SPOOK?
YOU CANNOT TOUCH ME, IT IS TRUE! AND SO IN PARTING--POOEY ON YOU!!
GENTLEMEN, THAT SETTLES IT! EVEN MIGHTY SUPERMAN CANNOT STOP THIS MADMAN!
LET THE RANSOM BE PAID!
THERE'S NOTHING ELSE WE CAN DO!
SO THEY'RE DETERMINED TO PAY THE RANSOM! WELL, LET THEM. IT MAY GIVE ME ANOTHER CHANCE TO MEET MISTER SINISTER!
4

LATER...CARRYING THE DEMANDED RANSOM, THE BOARD CHAIRMAN GOES TO THE DESERTED SPOT WHERE MISTER SINISTER HAS INDICATED HIS LOOT IS TO BE LEFT...
IT MAKES ME BOIL TO GIVE IN TO THIS RASCAL, BUT THERE'S NOTHING ELSE I CAN DO!
BUT UNKNOWN TO THE CHAIRMAN, HE IS UNDER SUPERMAN'S KEEN SCRUTINY...
LET MISTER SINISTER SHOW UP. I'LL BE WAITING FOR HIM!
AS THE CHAIRMAN IS ABOUT TO LOWER HIS SUITCASE, HE IS UNEXPECTEDLY ENGULFED IN A BLAZE OF PURPLE BRILLIANCE...
WHAT--??
I'M AFRAID MISTER SINISTER MAY HAVE ANTICIPATED ME!
BUT FAST AS THE MAN OF TOMORROW IS, THE CHAIRMAN'S FIGURE VANISHES A BARE INSTANT BEFORE HE REACHES HIM....
G-GONE!--KIDNAPPED BEFORE MY VERY EYES!
A MOMENT LATER--THE BOARD CHAIRMAN MATERIALIZES AGAIN...
BACK ON EARTH AGAIN! THANK HEAVEN!
YOU'RE BACK ALL RIGHT! BUT WHERE IS THE SUITCASE AND THE RANSOM MONEY?

I'VE GONE THRU A TERRIBLE EXPERIENCE—I SEEMED TO FIND MYSELF IN A WEIRD PURPLE-HUED WORLD...THUGS SNATCHED THE SUITCASE FROM ME... THEN MISTER SINISTER HIMSELF INFORMED ME THAT THE JENSEN BUILDING WOULD BE RETURNED AS HE HAD PROMISED.
THERE'S ONE SURE WAY WE CAN CHECK THAT STORY!
C-C-C-CAREFUL!!
DON'T WORRY. IF YOU FALL, YOU'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT HIT YOU!
THERE IT IS— THE JENSEN BUILDING...!!!
SO MISTER SINISTER KEPT HIS WORD!
OUR BUILDING—SAFE!
BUT, IF YOU'LL LOOK NEXT DOOR, YOU'LL NOTE THAT THE CARSON NATIONAL BANK HAS DISAPPEARED!
SO IT HAS!
AND YOU CAN THANK YOUR WEAK-KNEED BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR IT! YOUR CRAVEN ATTITUDE HAS ENCOURAGED MISTER SINISTER TO TAKE DRASTIC STEPS!
LATER—IN HIS IDENTITY AS CLARK KENT, THE REPORTER APPROACHES WHITE...
THE JENSEN BUILDING RETURNED—A BANK STOLEN... AND YOU'RE NOWHERE TO BE FOUND!
BUT GIVE ME THE OKAY TO GO AHEAD AND I'LL MORE THAN MAKE UP FOR LOST TIME, LET ME WRITE AN EDITORIAL AROUSING THE CITIZENS AGAINST THIS SUPER CROOK, MISTER SINISTER!
6
RAPIDLY, CLARK DICTATES TO LOIS...
... AND THIS FIENDISH MONSTER MUST BE STOPPED IN HIS TRACKS BEFORE HE SMASHES LAW AND CIVILIZATION...—GOT THAT, LOIS?
I'M WITH YOU, CLARK!
I'VE GOT IT—KEEP GOING!
THE STORY IS GOOD, I MUST ADMIT. BUT I'LL CRUSH THE PLANET IF YOU DARE PRINT IT!!
MISTER SINISTER!

HERE'S THE EDITORIAL. BUT MISTER SINISTER THREATENS REPRISAL IF WE PRINT IT.
MISTER SINISTER DOESN'T FRIGHTEN ME, RUSH IT DOWN TO THE PRESSES.
MOMENTS LATER... THOUSANDS OF COPIES OF A SPECIAL EDITION OF THE DAILY PLANET MATERIALIZE IN TUNE TO THE THUNDEROUS ROAR OF THE PRINTING PRESSES...
I'LL SHOW THAT SUPERNATURAL HOODLUM HE CAN'T DICTATE THE POLICY OF MY PAPER!
GOOD FOR YOU, WHITE!
STOP THE PRESSES RIGHT AWAY! AND IF YOU DON'T YOU'LL RUE THIS DAY!
MISTER SINISTER!
I'LL...!
LET ME ANSWER HIM, CHIEF!
WE'VE HEARD YOUR WARNING, HERE'S THE ANSWER: WE'LL PRINT THAT STORY DESPITE YOU, MISTER!
WHY, CLARK-- YOU'RE A POET!
AS THO IN RESPONSE TO KENT'S DEFIANT REPLY, THE ENTIRE BUILDING IS FILLED WITH A PURPLE HAZE...
WHAT'S HAPPENED?
GOOD GOSH! LOOK OUT TH' WINDOW!
A BARREN, PURPLISH COUNTRY...!
HE DID IT! MISTER SINISTER HAS MADE GOOD HIS THREAT!
RIGHT! SINCE YA DEFIED HIM, THE BOSS KIDNAPPED THE PLANET BUILDING!
KEEP YOUR HANDS UP-- OUR MEN HAVE THE BUILDING COVERED, WHITE, KENT, LANE— COME WITH US!
HERE THEY ARE, MISTER SINISTER!
PERHAPS YOU'LL LISTEN TO REASON NOW!
NOT YOUR BRAND OF REASONING!
SH-HH! DON'T ANGER HIM ANY MORE THAN NECESSARY!
7

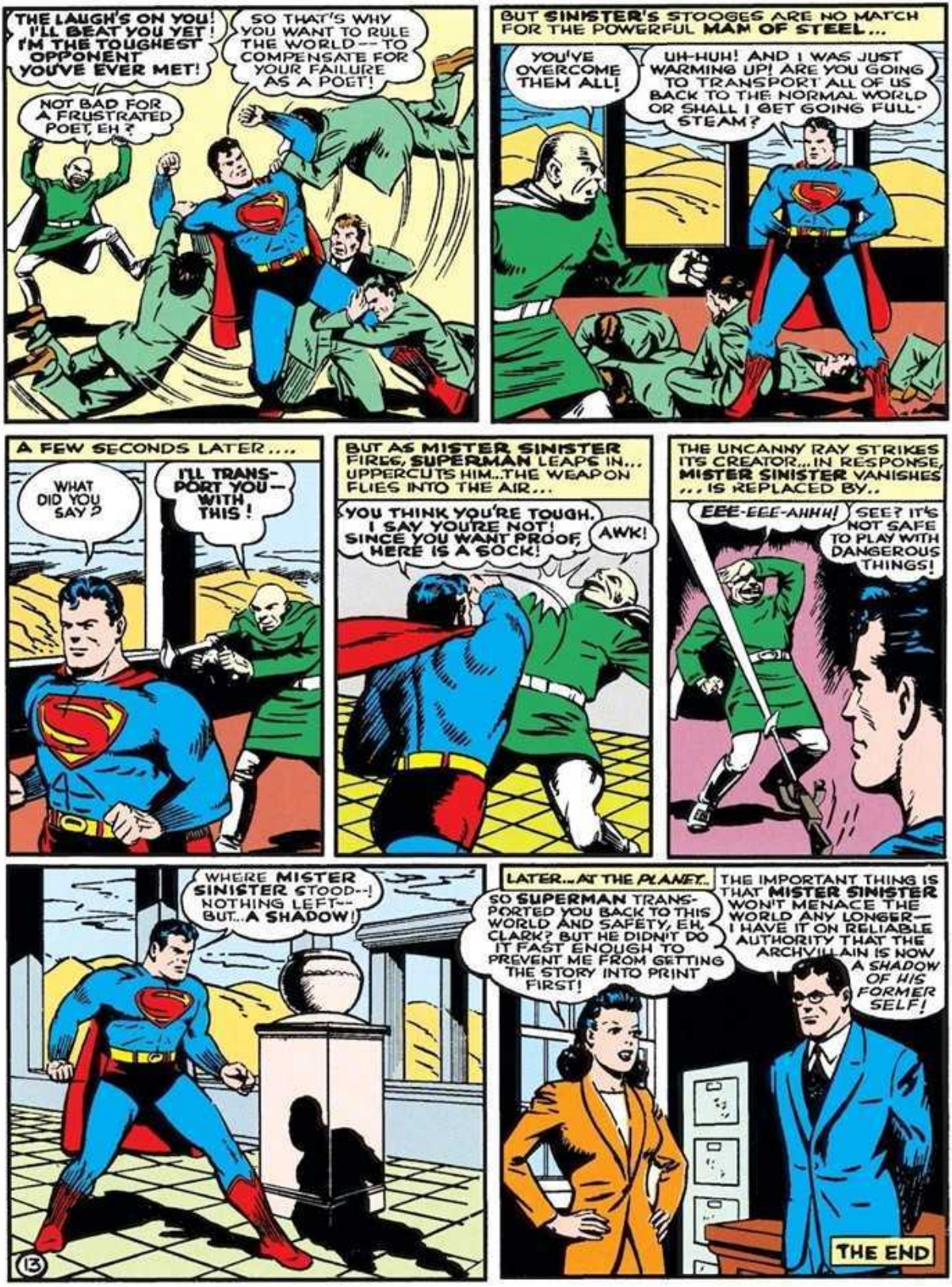
WH-WHAT MANNER OF STRANGE COUNTRY IS THIS? WHERE HAVE YOU TAKEN US?
I'VE MERELY TRANSPORTED YOU TO ANOTHER DIMENSION: THE FOURTH, TO BE EXACT!
YOU MEAN--YOU'VE CONQUERED THE DIMENSIONS?!
EXACTLY. AND THUS I FIND IT A SIMPLE MATTER TO SNATCH BUILDINGS INTO THIS UNKNOWN DIMENSION--AND RETURN THEM ONLY FOR PROFIT!
THE WEIRDEST RACKET I EVER HEARD OF!
AND ONE OF THE WORST!
I AM INCLINED TO BE MERCIFUL. I WILL RETURN YOU TO YOUR NORMAL WORLD UNHARMED, IF YOU PROMISE NOT TO PRINT ANY FURTHER ATTACKS AGAINST ME.
AND IF WE DON'T GIVE YOU THAT PROMISE?
THEN--YOU WILL SUFFER!
I REFUSE!
I--I--I--ER...
SPEAKING FOR CLARK AND MYSELF --SO DO WE!!
TAKE THEM AWAY! TREAT THEM TO THE VARIOUS FATES I'VE DEVISED FOR THEM!
NO! NO!
LET GO OF ME!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO TO ME?
YOU MEAN, WHAT AREN'T WE GONNA DO!
THAT DIMENSION-RAY WILL BLAST YOU INTO A COUPLE OF DIFFERENT DIMENSIONS!
THE RAY-CANNON IS FIRED TOWARD CLARK'S COWERING FIGURE...!
8

FASTER THAN LIGHT, CLARK WHIPS FREE FROM HIS BONDS...
("-GOT TO ACT... FAST!-")
...THEN RACES BEHIND THE MECHANISM SO QUICKLY HE CANNOT BE SEEN!
MADE IT!
...SO THAT A SECOND AFTER THE RAY STRIKES THE SPOT WHERE CLARK HAD BEEN, HE IS NO LONGER VISIBLE—AND NO ONE IS THE WISER!
HE'S GONE!
INTO SOME STRANGE DIMENSION, HE'S ONE GUY TH' BOSS WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ANY LONGER.
BUT BEHIND THE WEIRD MECHANISM, CLARK REMOVES HIS OUTER GARMENTS AND SWITCHES TO HIS COLORFUL CRIME-FIGHTING COSTUME...
UNLESS I'M MISTAKEN, THEIR BOSS IS GOING TO HAVE PLENTY TO WORRY ABOUT!
WITHOUT WARNING, THE MAN OF TOMORROW STEPS INTO VIEW...
S-SUPER-MAN!
QUICK! WE GOTTA GET RID OF HIM LIKE WE DID WITH THE REPORTER!
AMBITIOUS LADS!
SPRINGING IN, SUPERMAN SMASHES THE GREAT CANNON APART WITH HIS BARE HANDS...
BUT I'VE OTHER IDEAS ON THE SUBJECT!
GRAB HIM!
KNOCK HIM OUT!
ANY KNOCKING OUT HEREABOUTS WILL BE DONE STRICTLY BY ME!
YIPE!
EEE-YEE-EEOW!!
THEY'RE OUT—COLD. NOW TO HELP WHITE AND LOIS... AND I HOPE I'M NOT ALREADY TOO LATE!
9

MEANWHILE... AS LOIS AND WHITE HAD BEEN LED OFF....
THE CARSON NATIONAL BANK--HERE IN THIS STRANGE DIMENSION!
THE LAST OF THE LOOT IS BEING REMOVED NOW,
SURELY YOU CRIMINALS DON'T THINK YOU CAN CONTINUE TO GET AWAY WITH THIS!?
CARSO
MOMENTS LATER...
IT-- VANISHED
WE DON'T NEED IT ANYMORE..
KEEP MOVING!
CARSON NATIONAL BA
AND MOMENTS LATER, THEY ARE TIED TO STAKES IN A NEARBY VALLEY....
WH-WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO US?
AW, YOU DON'T WANT US TO REALLY TELL!
THAT WOULD RUIN THE SUSPENSE!
YOU DEVILS!
SUDDENLY-- AS THE GROUND BEGINS TO SHAKE AND TREMBLE....
THAT NOISE--!
SOMETHING HUGE COMING THIS WAY!
TOWARD THE HELPLESS TWO LURCHES A WEIRD SHADOW MONSTER OF THE DIMENSIONAL-WORLD....
THAT'S WHY THEY TIED US HERE! WE'RE BEING SACRIFICED TO IT!
THE MURDERERS!
BUT AS THE SHADE-LIKE CREATURE REACHES FOR ITS VICTIMS--INTO ITS PATH RACES--
SUPERMAN!
MAY I INTRUDE?
10

SUPERMAN! HE'S HERE-- FIGHTING THE DIMENSION-BEAST!
I'LL SOON ATTEND TO HIM!
TAKING CAREFUL AIM AT THE TWO FIGURES CAUGHT IN A COLOSSAL DEATH STRUGGLE, MISTER SINISTER FIRES...!
DEATH TO SUPERMAN!
SWIFTLY, THE MAN OF STEEL DODGES THE DEADLY RAY, AND AS HE DOES, IT STRIKES THE WEIRD MONSTER-- SUPERMAN'S FOE COLLAPSES...
THANKS FOR THE GOOD TURN!
BUT AS SUPERMAN LEAPS TOWARD MISTER SINISTER....
CAN'T-- MOVE...!
ODD! THE FORCE RAY SHOULD HAVE SLAIN YOU!
BUT ALL THE BETTER! NOW YOU'LL ALL HAVE TO STAND HELPLESSLY BY WHILE I KIDNAP THE ENTIRE CITY OF METROPOLIS. THAT WILL SHOW THE REST OF THE NATION THEY'D BETTER SURRENDER PEACEABLY TO ME!
AS MISTER SINISTER OPERATES HIS CONTROLS, A PURPLISH HAZE BEGINS TO GATHER OVER THE THREATENED CITY....
BUT THE FORCE-RAY IS NO MATCH FOR THE MAN OF STEEL!
THE RAY HASN'T BEEN INVENTED YET THAT CAN PERMANENTLY ANNOY ME!
HE'S FREE!!
THERE! THAT ATTENDS TO THE SWITCH! YOU'RE NEXT ON MY LIST!
BUT YOU RECKON WITHOUT MY ESCAPE INTO THE DIMENSIONS!
11

DIVING INTO THE MYSTERIOUS AURA, SUPERMAN PURSUES MISTER SINISTER SUCCESSIVELY THRU THE DIMENSIONS OF--LENGTH...
BACK--BACK, YOU ANIMATED BEANPOLE...!
HOW DARE YOU CALL ME A BEANPOLE, YOU STRING BEAN!
--WIDTH...
I WARN YOU... KEEP BACK!
--AND THICKNESS!
CAN'T YOU GET IT THRU YOUR THICK HEAD THAT THERE'S NO ESCAPE FOR YOU?
LET GO! LET GO!
BACK TO THE FOURTH DIMENSION THEY HURTLE....
AND NOW YOU'RE GOING TO SEND THE PLANET BUILDING AND MY FRIENDS BACK TO THE WORLD OF ORDINARY DIMENSIONS!
YES..YES! BUT RELEASE ME!
THOSE BURSTING LIGHTS OUTSIDE THE WINDOWS... WHAT'S HAPPENING?
I--I DON'T KNOW! BUT THE WHOLE BUILDING IS SHAKING AS THO IT WERE GOING TO FALL APART!
THAT'S RIGHT! OVERCOME HIM... DESTROY HIM... WHILE I RIP APART THE PLANET BUILDING WITH A DIMENSIONAL CURRENT!
YIPPEE! WE GOT 'IM!
USE YOUR GUNS--KILL HIM!
A DOZEN TO ONE, EH?
12


THE LAUGH'S ON YOU! I'LL BEAT YOU YET! I'M THE TOUGHEST OPPONENT YOU'VE EVER MET!
SO THAT'S WHY YOU WANT TO RULE THE WORLD -- TO COMPENSATE FOR YOUR FAILURE AS A POET!
NOT BAD FOR A FRUSTRATED POET, EH?
BUT SINISTER'S STOOGES ARE NO MATCH FOR THE POWERFUL MAN OF STEEL...
YOU'VE OVERCOME THEM ALL!
UH-HUH! AND I WAS JUST WARMING UP! ARE YOU GOING TO TRANSPORT ALL OF US BACK TO THE NORMAL WORLD OR SHALL I GET GOING FULL-STEAM?
A FEW SECONDS LATER....
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I'LL TRANS-PORT YOU-- WITH THIS!
BUT AS MISTER SINISTER FIRES, SUPERMAN LEAPS IN... UPPERCUTS HIM..THE WEAPON FLIES INTO THE AIR...
YOU THINK YOU'RE TOUGH. I SAY YOU'RE NOT! SINCE YOU WANT PROOF, HERE IS A SOCK!
AWK!
THE UNCANNY RAY STRIKES ITS CREATOR...IN RESPONSE, MISTER SINISTER VANISHES ... IS REPLACED BY..
EEE-EEE-AHHH!
SEE? IT'S NOT SAFE TO PLAY WITH DANGEROUS THINGS!
WHERE MISTER SINISTER STOOD--! NOTHING LEFT-- BUT...A SHADOW!
13
LATER...AT THE PLANET..
SO SUPERMAN TRANS-PORTED YOU BACK TO THIS WORLD AND SAFETY, EH, CLARK? BUT HE DIDN'T DO IT FAST ENOUGH TO PREVENT ME FROM GETTING THE STORY INTO PRINT FIRST!
THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT MISTER SINISTER WON'T MENACE THE WORLD ANY LONGER-- I HAVE IT ON RELIABLE AUTHORITY THAT THE ARCHVILLAIN IS NOW A SHADOW OF HIS FORMER SELF!
THE END

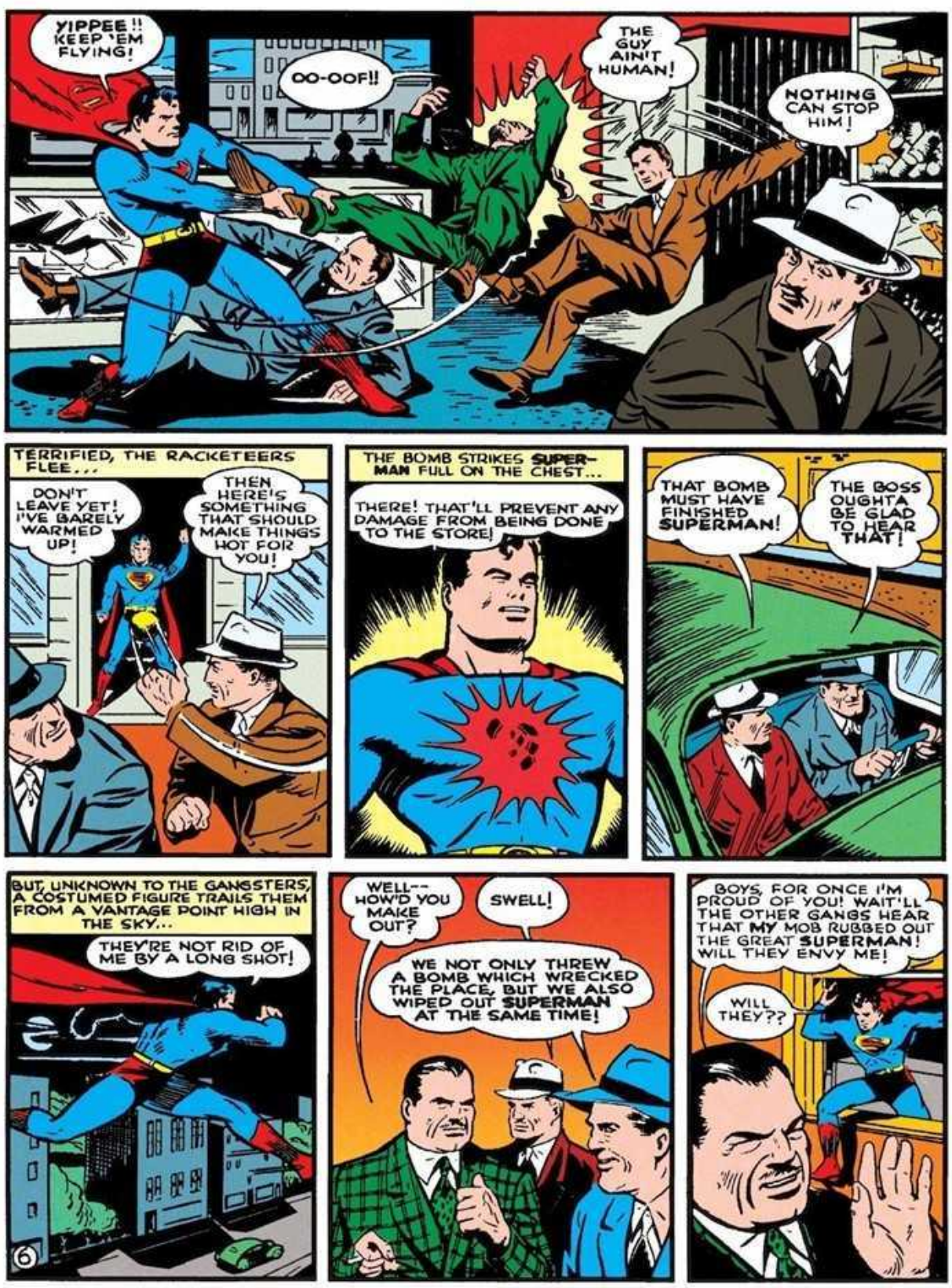
SUPERMAN
JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
NO STERNER OR MORE COURAGEOUS BATTLER IN BEHALF OF JUSTICE IS THERE THAN SUPERMAN, AMAZINGLY STRONG CHAMPION OF THE HELPLESS AND OPPRESSED! WHEN HE ENCOUNTERS A PARASITICAL RACKET WHICH ACCRUES ILLEGAL WEALTH BY HEARTLESS VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION, THE WORLD-FAMOUS MAN OF TOMORROW STRIKES AT THE MENACE WITH ALL THE SHOCKING POWER THAT HE CAN UNLEASH IN THE STORY OF "RACKET ON DELIVERY"!
NICE OF YOU TO LET ME ACCOMPANY YOU LIKE THIS, LOIS!
DON'T FLATTER YOURSELF, CLARK! I JUST DIDN'T FEEL LIKE CARRYING THE BASKET MYSELF.
I SAY, MR. GOLDEN... HAVEN'T YOUR PRICES GONE UP SINCE I LAST SHOPPED HERE?
YOU'LL FIND THE SAME CONDITION AT ALL THE STORES, MISS LANE. HIGHER COST OF LIVING, YOU KNOW.
I WONDER WHAT ALL THAT NOISE IS IN BACK OF THE STORE?
YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T UNLOAD WITHOUT SHELLING OUT FOUR BUCKS FIRST...
TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME. I WON'T PAY YOUR FILTHY MOB A CENT OF GRAFT!

WHAT'S ALL THE TROUBLE?
PLEASE, MISS LANE--YOU'D BETTER STAY OUT OF THIS.
BETTER LISTEN TO HIM, LADY--IF YOU WANT TO STAY HEALTHY.
THE NERVE OF THESE GUYS! THEY WANT TO CHARGE ME FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF UNLOADING MY FREIGHT AFTER I HAULED IT ALL THE WAY HERE ACROSS THREE STATES... WELL, I WON'T DO IT!!
THAT'S RIGHT, BOYS--GIVE IT TO HIM GOOD!
WE'LL TEACH YOU TO PAY WITHOUT SQUAWKIN'!
CLARK! HELP THE DRIVER!
STOP IT! GET AWAY FROM MY STORE--ALL OF YOU!
I'LL HELP, LOIS--BY FINDING AN OFFICER!!
BUT ONCE HE IS OUT OF VIEW OF THE OTHERS, THE TIMID REPORTER SWITCHES TO A COLORFUL COSTUME KNOWN WITH FEAR, ADMIRATION, AND RESPECT IN EVERY CORNER OF THE GLOBE!
CLARK KENT MAY BE TOO MEEK TO ENGAGE IN FISTICUFFS--BUT THERE'S NOTHING SUPERMAN LIKES BETTER!
I'LL TEACH YA TO KEEP YOUR NOSE OUTTA THINGS THAT DON'T CONCERN YOU!
DON'T YOU STRIKE ME, OR...
SWISH! AND A COSTUMED FIGURE STREAKS OUT ONTO THE SCENE...
OUCH! YOUR HAND IS AS TOUGH AS IRON!
SUPERMAN! THANKS!
PARDON ME, LOIS, WHILE I ATTEND TO THE REMAINING THUGS!
EFFORTLESSLY, THE MAN OF STEEL HEAVES THE COWARDLY MUSCLEMEN OVER HIS SHOULDER AND INTO THEIR AUTO...
HEY!
SIX TO ONE--JUST A COUPLE OF BRAVE GUYS, HUH?
WHA--??
...THEN GIVES THE VEHICLE A FLYING START!
ON YOUR WAY!
SUPERMAN SPRINGS AWAY. MOMENTS LATER, CLARK KENT CHARGES BACK....
I--I COULDN'T FIND A POLICEMAN. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YOU MEAN YOU HID UNTIL YOU WERE SURE IT WAS SAFE TO COME BACK. I HAVEN'T TIME NOW TO TELL YOU WHAT I THINK OF YOU... THERE'S SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT TO DO!
GEE, THAT DOES MY HEART GOOD!
THEY WON'T LIKE IT. THEY--THEY'LL DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!
I CAN TELL YOU ONE THING! I INTEND TO DO PLENTY ABOUT IT!
2

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN? IS IT TRUE WHAT THE DRIVER SAID.. THAT THOSE RACKETEERS DEMAND A FEE FOR EVERY TRUCK THAT IS UNLOADED IN THE CITY...?
YES, AND THAT'S WHY THE PRICE OF FOOD IS RISING SO HIGH IN METROPOLIS. WE DON'T DARE FIGHT THAT GANG, THEY'RE TOUGH!
LOIS! I FEEL A FRONT-PAGE YARN COMING ON! LET'S BEAT IT BACK TO THE NEWS-PAPER OFFICE!
AND THAT'S THE SITUATION IN A NUTSHELL, PERRY! UNLESS THOSE RACKETEERS ARE STOPPED, THE COST OF LIVING WILL RISE HIGHER AND HIGHER AS THEY INCREASE THEIR DICTATORIAL DEMANDS!
A RACKET LIKE THAT DESERVES TO BE BUST WIDE OPEN!
THANKS, WHITE! ALL CLARK AND I WANTED WAS YOUR GO-AHEAD SIGNAL!
MEANWHILE--THE MUSCLEMEN REPORT BACK TO THEIR LEADER, "SLATS" MORGAN...
WHAT'S THAT? YOU MEAN TO SAY YOU LET A MENTAL CASE RUNNING AROUND IN A MASQUERADE COSTUME MAKE SAPS OUT OF YOU?
WHAT COULD WE DO? SUPERMAN COULD LICK THE WHOLE LOT OF US WITH HIS LITTLE FINGER!
RAGING, THE CRIME CHIEFTAIN SLAPS HIS MEN AROUND...
AN' YOU PACK OF SISSIES ARE SUPPOSED TO BE HARD! NOW LISTEN TO ME!
OW-WW!
STOP IT, SLATS!
WE CAN'T LET THESE STORE-KEEPERS THINK THEY CAN GET FUNNY WITH US AND GET AWAY WITH IT, OR OUR WHOLE RACKET WILL FOLD UP IN A FEW DAYS. I'M GOING TO SEND OUT TWO SQUADS--ONE TO GOLDEN'S HOME, THE OTHER TO HIS SUPER-MARKET. I WANT BOTH SQUADS TO FIX GOLDEN SO THAT NO OTHER STOREKEEPER IN TOWN WILL DARE TO LET OUT A SQUEAL!
THAT EVENING-- THE GOLDEN RESIDENCE...
HURRY WITH ME--THEY GOT YOUR WIFE AT THE CORNER DRUG STORE--SHE FAINTED WHILE MAKING A PURCHASE...
YOU SAY MY WIFE...??
FRANTICALLY, GOLDEN SLAMS THE DOOR, BOLTS IT...
IT'S A TRICK OF THOSE GANGSTERS TO GET ME! THEY DON'T KNOW MY WIFE IS OUT OF TOWN!
3
HE GOT WISE! HELP ME BREAK THE DOOR DOWN!
ALL TOGETHER NOW!

WORKING LATE AT THE NEWSPAPER OFFICE ON HIS STORY, CLARK IS INTERRUPTED BY AN URGENT TELEPHONE CALL...
I'VE JUST CALLED THE POLICE! THE RACKETEERS--THEY'RE BREAKING IN...THEY'RE... AWK!
A CRASHING SOUND--THEN THE LINE WENT DEAD...!
WHIPPING OFF HIS OUTER GARMENTS, THE MAN OF TOMORROW VAULTS OUT INTO THE NIGHT...
GOLDEN--IN NEED OF HELP...!
HIS HOUSE--JUST UP AHEAD... ANOTHER MOMENT, AND...!
NO! UGH! STOP--STOP...!!
THIS'LL TEACH YA NOT TO GET SMART WITH US!
AND I'M GOING TO TEACH YOU TO GET SMART!
OH--SO YOU WANT A TASTE OF THESE BRASS KNUCKLES, TOO!?
I'LL MAKE YOU SORRY YOU EVER HEARD OF BRASS KNUCKLES!
DELIBERATELY, SUPERMAN COMPRESSES HIS FIST SO THAT THE COWARDLY WEAPON IS BENT AND CRUSHED ABOUT THE CRIMINAL'S HAND...
OUCH! OUCH! YOU'LL BREAK MY HAND!
DON'T WORRY, IT'S NOT WORTH THE EFFORT!
BACK SUPERMAN HURLS THE THUGS SO THAT THEY LAND AT THE VERY FEET OF THE POLICE WHO HAVE COME TO INVESTIGATE GOLDEN'S CALL...
WHAT'S THIS?
IT'S RAINING CROOKS!!
WHILE THEY WERE BEATING ME, THEY TOLD ME MY SUPER-MARKET WOULD BE WRECKED TONIGHT!
SET YOUR MIND AT EASE, I'LL LOOK INTO THE MATTER.
4

MEANWHILE-- MORGAN'S SECOND SQUAD HAS OVERCOME THE STORE'S WATCHMAN...
TIE HIM UP! THEN REALLY GET BUSY!
BREAKING INTO THE SUPER-MARKET, THE RUTHLESS RAIDERS BEGIN THEIR WANTON DESTRUCTION...
WHEN WE FINISH HERE, IT'LL LOOK AS IF AN EARTHQUAKE HIT THE PLACE!
HO! HO! I CALLS THIS FUN!
IT LOOKS AS THO THE BOYS ARE ALREADY HARD AT WORK!
FORCING OPEN A WINDOW, THE MAN OF STEEL SILENTLY SLIPS INSIDE...
THERE'S GOING TO BE SOME MORE SMASHING DONE AROUND HERE-- BUT BY ME!
AS ONE OF THE CRIMINALS COMES UPON HIM, SUPERMAN STANDS RIGID...
LOOK! A STATUE! WATCH ME!!
BUT AS THE THUG LAUGHINGLY SMASHES HIS HATCHET AGAINST THE "STATUE"....
HUH?! THE HATCHET BROKE!!
AND WHY NOT??
WHA--?
AWK! IT 'S ALIVE! HEY, FELLAS! IT'S SUPERMAN!
RUSH HIM!!
5


YIPPEE!! KEEP 'EM FLYING!
OO-OOF!!
THE GUY AIN'T HUMAN!
NOTHING CAN STOP HIM!
TERRIFIED, THE RACKETEERS FLEE...
DON'T LEAVE YET! I'VE BARELY WARMED UP!
THEN HERE'S SOMETHING THAT SHOULD MAKE THINGS HOT FOR YOU!
THE BOMB STRIKES SUPERMAN FULL ON THE CHEST...
THERE! THAT'LL PREVENT ANY DAMAGE FROM BEING DONE TO THE STORE!
THAT BOMB MUST HAVE FINISHED SUPERMAN!
THE BOSS OUGHTA BE GLAD TO HEAR THAT!
BUT, UNKNOWN TO THE GANGSTERS, A COSTUMED FIGURE TRAILS THEM FROM A VANTAGE POINT HIGH IN THE SKY...
THEY'RE NOT RID OF ME BY A LONG SHOT!
6
WELL-- HOW'D YOU MAKE OUT?
SWELL!
WE NOT ONLY THREW A BOMB WHICH WRECKED THE PLACE, BUT WE ALSO WIPED OUT SUPERMAN AT THE SAME TIME!
BOYS, FOR ONCE I'M PROUD OF YOU! WAIT'LL THE OTHER GANGS HEAR THAT MY MOB RUBBED OUT THE GREAT SUPERMAN! WILL THEY ENVY ME!
WILL THEY??

WHAT--?? BUT I THOUGHT...??
THAT I WAS DEAD? GUESS AGAIN!
THEN I'LL MAKE IT GOOD!
OOPS! SLIPPED!
EARTHWARD PLUMMETS SUPERMAN!
CAUGHT ME OFF GUARD THAT TIME!
SO YOU WERE LYIN'! WELL, IT TOOK A REALLY GOOD MAN LIKE MYSELF TO GET RID OF THAT SUPER-STRONG GUY!
I DON'T KNOW HOW HE SURVIVED THAT EXPLOSION!
BOSS, YER A WONDER!
BUT CATCHING AN OUTJUTTING LEDGE, SUPER MAN FLINGS HIMSELF BACK UP AGAIN...
NOW TO MAKE THIS A ROUND TRIP!
YOU-- BACK AGAIN...!!
YES--FOR A RETURN TRIP!
MAKE HIM LET GO OF ME! SOCK HIM!!! GRAB HIM!
FAST ON YOUR FEET, EH? WELL, LET'S SEE HOW GOOD YOU ACTUALLY ARE!
7

SUPERMAN SWINGS THE GANGLEADER'S BODY IN A LOW CIRCLE SO THAT THE THUGS ARE REPEATEDLY FORCED TO LEAP OVER THEIR CHIEF'S BODY...
THAT'S RIGHT! JUMP! JUMP!
MAKE HIM STOP!!
YOU DON'T THINK WE'RE ENJOYING THIS!
THIS IS YOUR LAST WARNING! IF YOU DON'T CUT OUT YOUR RACKETEERING, MY NEXT ENCOUNTER WITH YOU WILL BE THE LAST!
P-P-PUT M-ME D-D-DOWN!!!
IF MY FRIENDLY LITTLE WARNING DOESN'T WORK, I'LL HAVE TO RESORT TO STRONGER TACTICS!
WHAT YOU GONNA DO, BOSS? QUIT THE RACKET?
NOTHING DOING! NOT WHEN THE PROFITS ARE ROLLIN' IN SO SWEET! NO--WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT SUPER-STRONG GUY SOME OTHER WAY...!
NEXT DAY... AS THE MORNING EDITION ROLLS OFF THE THUNDERING PRESSES...
THINK THAT ARTICLE OUGHT TO DO IT, LOIS?
IT CERTAINLY SHOULD! I'M GLAD YOU REMEMBERED TO SIGN IT WITH BOTH OUR NAMES.
AND WHEN IT HITS THE STREETS...
WOW! WHAT A RACKET!
SO THAT'S WHY THE FOOD BUDGET'S BEEN STRAINED!
I'M GLAD THOSE CROOKS ARE BEING EXPOSED! I HOPE THEY GET THE JAIL TERMS THEY DESERVE!
OH-OH! THIS IS GOING TO RAISE THE ROOF AT HEADQUARTERS!
CLARK HAS A VISIT FROM VERNON HALE, ONE OF THE CITY'S MOST AGGRESSIVE COUNCILMEN...
THIS ARTICLE OF YOURS IS TERRIFIC, KENT! IF YOU'LL ACCOMPANY ME IN MY CAR TO THE POLICE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, I'LL BACK UP YOUR CHARGES AND DEMAND QUICK ACTION!
I'LL BE GLAD TO GO WITH YOU!
WAIT FOR ME! I'M GOING, TOO!!
8

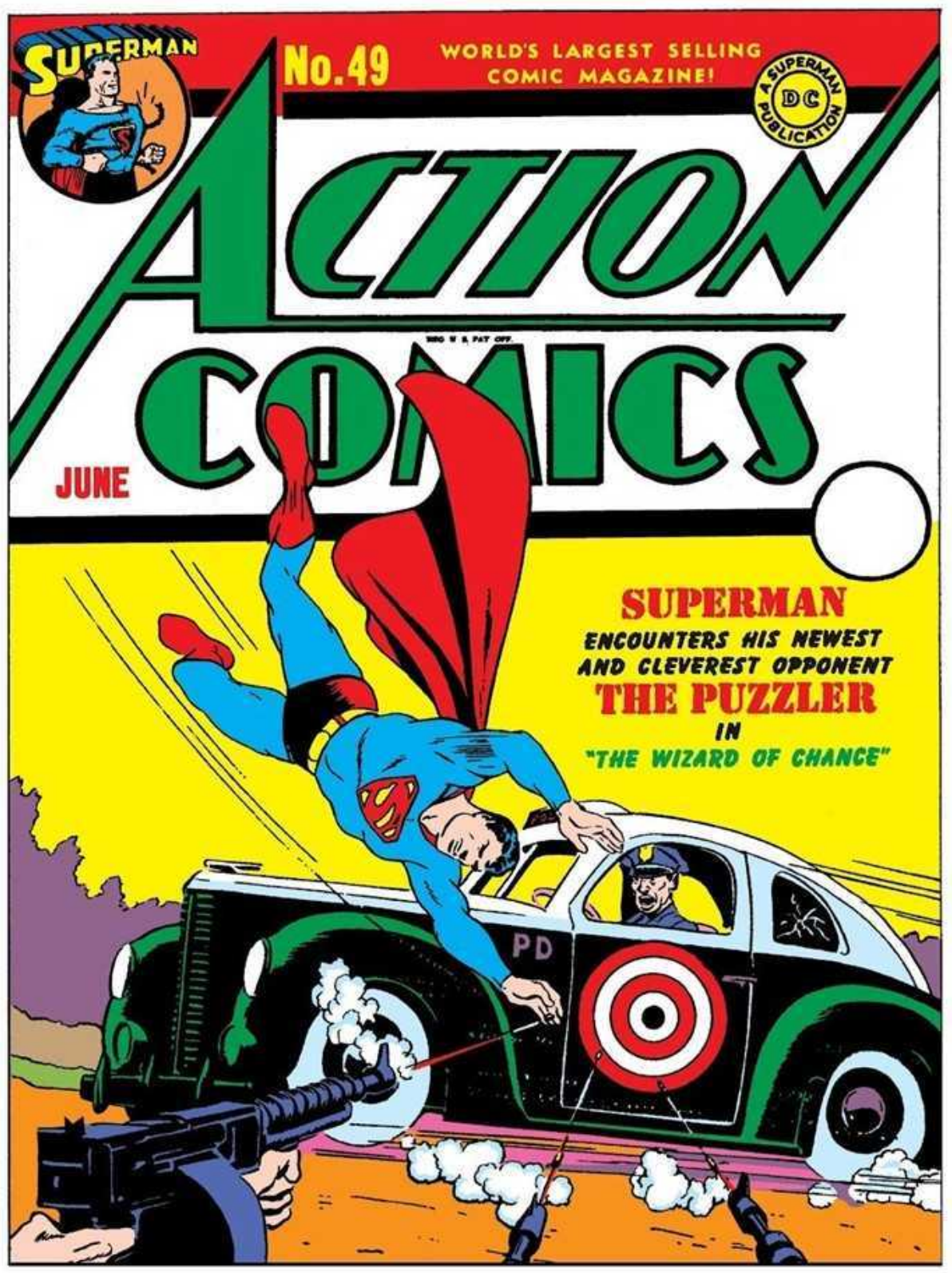
I'M GLAD THAT SOMEONE IN THIS TOWN HAD THE COURAGE TO UNCOVER AND EXPOSE THIS VICIOUS RACKET!
SAY! AREN'T WE DRIVING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION?
WE CERTAINLY ARE!
KEEP THEM COVERED, TONY!
DON'T MAKE A FALSE MOVE, FOLKS... OR IT'LL BE YOUR LAST!
WE'RE BEING KIDNAPED!
THOSE AREN'T MY MEN!
LATER...THE THREE CAPTIVES ARE FORCED INTO A SMALL BROKEN-DOWN SHACK AT THE RIVER'S VERY EDGE...
GET GOIN'!
WALK FASTER!
D-D-DON'T SHOOT!
SLATS MORGAN!
YOU KNOW ME, EH? THEN YOU KNOW WHAT A FOOLISH MISTAKE YOU MADE WHEN YOU DECIDED TO SMASH MY RACKET!
W-WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO TO US?
I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU JUST ONE CHANCE. GIVE UP YOUR INVESTIGATION, OR DIE! WHAT'S YOUR DECISION?
I'LL NEVER SACRIFICE MY PRINCIPLES!
ER--MAYBE WE OUGHT TO....
WHATEVER YOU DO, CLARK, DON'T BEG!!
SPEAKING FOR BOTH CLARK AND MYSELF, I WANT TO SAY THAT WE DON'T CARE TO BARGAIN WITH YOU, EITHER!
THE THREE CAPTIVES ARE LOCKED IN SEPARATE ROOMS...
YOU CAN'T SAY I DIDN'T GIVE YOU A CHANCE!
YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS!
SO LONG, CHUMPS! YOU'LL BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THAT MY MEN ARE GOING TO BEAR DOWN EVEN HARDER-- I'VE GOT THEIR ASSIGNED POSITIONS RIGHT HERE ON THIS MAP!
THERE!
SHE'S GOING!
SUPPORTS BROKEN, THE TINY SHACK SLIPS BACK INTO THE RIVER, THEN IS SWEPT AWAY BY A SWIFT CURRENT...
NEAT!
COME ON! WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO!
9

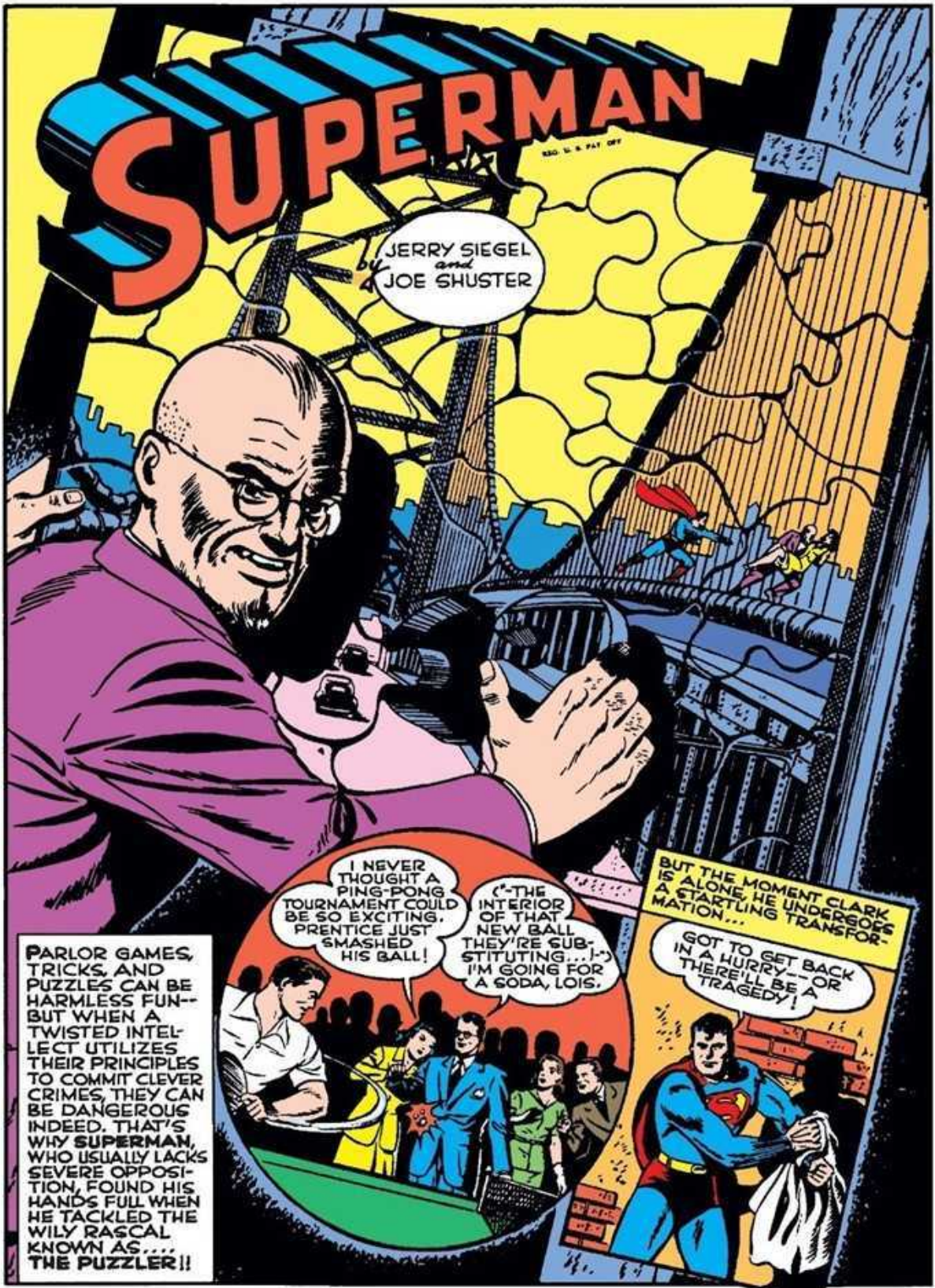
AS THE SHACK FLOATS DOWN THE RIVER, BUFFETED BY THE ANGRY CURRENT, KENT SWITCHES TO HIS IDENTITY AS SUPERMAN....
LOIS--UNCONSCIOUS...
GOT HER! BUT I'VE GOT TO FIND HALE!
CAN'T LOCATE HIM—BETTER GET LOIS TO LAND...
YOU SAVED ME FROM THE RIVER! WAIT!
NO! THERE'S WORK TO BE DONE!
SWIFTLY, SUPERMAN OVERTAKES MORGAN'S CAR,... RIPS OFF THE HOOD...
HEY! STOP THAT!!
I KNOW YOU WON'T LISTEN TO MY REQUEST TO SLOW DOWN! SO...
--OUT WITH THE MOTOR!!
REMEMBER WHAT I TOLD YOU WHEN I LAST SAW YOU?
NO--DON'T KILL ME! NO!!!
10

ALL I'M AFTER RIGHT NOW IS THIS MAP!
NO! YOU CAN'T HAVE IT!!
HEAVING THE CRIMINAL BACK INTO THE AUTO, SUPERMAN TWISTS THE DOORS INTO A SOLID MASS....
REMAIN HERE!
THIS INDICATES EVERY SPOT WHERE I CAN FIND MORGAN'S MEN ENGAGED IN THEIR STRONG-ARM WORK! I SHOULD BE ABLE TO ROUND UP THE WHOLE MOB AT ONE STROKE!
WHAM! RACING INTO ACTION LIKE A STREAKING THUNDERBOLT--
--SUPERMAN OVERCOMES THE RACKETEERS IN THE MIDST OF THEIR CRIMES...
GATHERING ALL THE CARS WITH THEIR IMPRISONED RACKETEERS INSIDE THEM, SUPERMAN PILES THEM ONE ATOP ANOTHER, THEN SETS OFF FOR HEADQUARTERS!
YOU CAN DELIVER YOUR TESTIMONY AGAINST THESE THUGS AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS!
THANKS!
WE'LL ALWAYS BE GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR FREEING US FROM THESE LEECHES!
WHEN SUPERMAN DEPOSITS HIS CAPTIVES BEFORE POLICE HEADQUARTERS, HE FINDS LOIS ALREADY THERE...
I HAD A HUNCH YOU'D TURN UP HERE!
WELL, I'M OFF AGAIN!
11

BUT ABRUPTLY SUPERMAN CHANGES THE DIRECTION OF HIS FLIGHT, SWOOPING BACK...
TURN-ABOUT!
...TO ALIGHT ON A LEDGE OUT OF VIEW!
THIS WILL PROVE INTER-ESTING!
FOR THE MAN OF TOMORROW HAS SIGHTED THE ARRIVAL OF VERNON HALE ON THE SCENE...
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
SUPERMAN ROUNDED UP THE WHOLE DELIVERY RACKETEER GANG! AND IF ALL THE PHONE CALLS WE'RE RECEIVING ARE ANY JUDGE, WE'LL BE FLOODED WITH WIT-NESSES TO TESTIFY AGAINST THEM.
MR. HALE! ALIVE!? THEN-- SUPERMAN MUST HAVE SAVED YOU, TOO?
MISS LANE! BUT I THOUGHT...ER... YES...HE..,HE DID SAVE ME, TOO! BUT EXCUSE ME. I--I MUST BE GOING...
YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE!
G-GULP... S-S-SUPERMAN!!
TOO BAD FOR YOU THAT YOU LIED, HALE. IF YOU HAD SAID YOU'D SWUM TO SAFETY, I MIGHT HAVE BELIEVED YOU. BUT NOW I KNOW THAT THE REASON I COULDN'T FIND YOU IN THE WATER IS BECAUSE YOU LEFT WITH SLATS MORGAN, THEN DROVE OFF IN YOUR OWN CAR! AND WHY--?
I-- YOU--
NO PARKING
BECAUSE YOU ARE THE MAN BEHIND SLATS --THE BRAINS BEHIND THIS WHOLE DELIVERY GRAFT RACKET! AND YOU ARE GOING TO PAY THE PENALTY!
CORRECT-- EXCEPT FOR ONE THING-- I WON'T PAY THE PENALTY! YOU'RE GOING TO DIE!
12

BUT THE BULLETS UNANIMOUSLY RICOCHET OFF THE MAN OF STEEL'S IMPENETRABLE SKIN!
THEY--THEY'RE BOUNCING OFF!
DISAPPOINTING, ISN'T IT?
BUT SHE'S VULNERABLE TO BULLETS! I'LL USE HER AS A SHIELD TO GET AWAY!
KEEP AWAY!
SUPERMAN STREAKS IN SO QUICKLY THAT HALE FINDS HIMSELF HOLDING THE MAN OF TOMORROW INSTEAD OF LOIS...
H-HOW'D YOU GET HERE?
THAT'S ONE FOR YOU TO FIGURE OUT!
YOU STILL WON'T GET ME! I'LL KILL MYSELF!
AND MAYBE YOU WON'T!
SUPERMAN SNATCHES THE TRIGGER-HEAD RIGHT OUT OF THE WEAPON...
THE GUN'S WORTHLESS NOW!
IT'S USELESS TO RESIST YOU!!
YOU'RE TELLING ME! SUPERMAN CERTAINLY HAS A WAY ABOUT HIM!
WHY NOT TELEPHONE IN YOUR STORY, LOIS?
A GOOD IDEA!
13
BUT SUPERMAN REACHES THE DAILY PLANET AND CHANGES BACK TO HIS IDENTITY AS CLARK KENT BEFORE LOIS EVEN REACHES THE DRUGSTORE TELEPHONE...
SO SUPERMAN RESCUED YOU, TOO! AND YOU ALREADY KNOW THE FULL DETAILS OF THE STORY?!
THAT'S RIGHT!
HOW DOES HE DO IT? HOW DOES HE GET HIS INFORMATION SO QUICKLY? I CAN THINK OF ONLY ONE ANSWER--MENTAL TELEPATHY!!
THE END


SUPERMAN
No. 49
WORLD'S LARGEST SELLING COMIC MAGAZINE!
A SUPERMAN PUBLICATION
DC
ACTION COMICS
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
JUNE
SUPERMAN
ENCOUNTERS HIS NEWEST AND CLEVEREST OPPONENT
THE PUZZLER
IN
"THE WIZARD OF CHANCE"
PD


SUPERMAN
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
PARLOR GAMES, TRICKS, AND PUZZLES CAN BE HARMLESS FUN-- BUT WHEN A TWISTED INTELLECT UTILIZES THEIR PRINCIPLES TO COMMIT CLEVER CRIMES, THEY CAN BE DANGEROUS INDEED. THAT'S WHY SUPERMAN, WHO USUALLY LACKS SEVERE OPPOSITION, FOUND HIS HANDS FULL WHEN HE TACKLED THE WILY RASCAL KNOWN AS.... THE PUZZLER!!
I NEVER THOUGHT A PING-PONG TOURNAMENT COULD BE SO EXCITING. PRENTICE JUST SMASHED HIS BALL!
(-THE INTERIOR OF THAT NEW BALL THEY'RE SUBSTITUTING...!-) I'M GOING FOR A SODA, LOIS.
BUT THE MOMENT CLARK IS ALONE, HE UNDERGOES A STARTLING TRANSFORMATION...
GOT TO GET BACK IN A HURRY--OR THERE'LL BE A TRAGEDY!

A SPLIT SECOND BEFORE THE DEFENDING CHAMPION CAN STRIKE THE NEW BALL...
MAY I BORROW IT, PLEASE?
WHA--?
IT'S-- SUPERMAN!

AND NOW-- A PADDLE, AND A NEW BALL.
YOU'RE WELCOME TO THEM, BUT-- WHAT'S THE IDEA?

WHIZZING BACK AND FORTH FROM ONE SIDE OF THE TABLE TO THE OTHER, SUPERMAN PERFORMS AN AMAZING FEAT....
TRY THIS WHEN YOU'VE NOTHING BETTER TO DO!
AND I THOUGHT I WAS A CHAMPION!

THAT'S ALL FOR TODAY, FOLKS!
THIS TOURNAMENT NOW MERITS FRONT-PAGE SPACE!

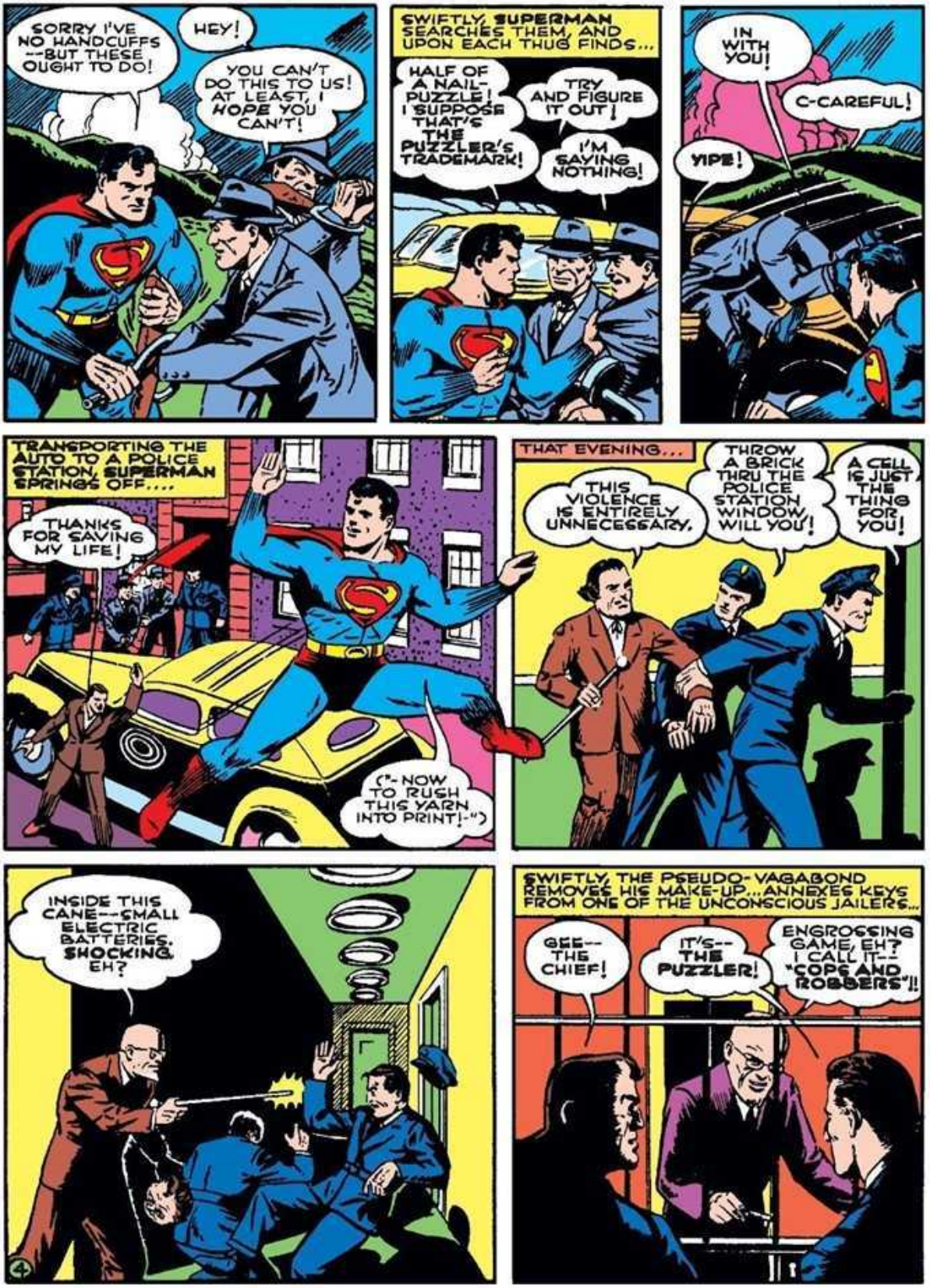
AS SUPERMAN ARROWS HIGH INTO THE CLOUDS, HE DELIBERATELY CRUSHES THE PURLOINED PING PONG BALL-- A MIGHTY BLAST....
A DANGEROUS EXPLOSIVE WITHIN THE PING-PONG BALL!

POSSESSING AN IMPENETRABLE SKIN IS TURNING OUT TO BE MORE OF A NECESSITY THAN A CONVENIENCE!
2

POOR CLARK! ALWAYS ABSENT WHEN THE EXCITEMENT STARTS. SUPERMAN WAS HERE!
JUST MY LUCK-- TO MISS SEEING HIM!

AT THE TOURNAMENT'S CONCLUSION, THE REPORTERS APPROACH THE AFFAIR'S PRESS AGENT.
ANY FURTHER ANGLES YOU CAN SUGGEST FOR OUR ARTICLE?
WELL... FOR ONE THING, CARL PRENTICE RECEIVED A THREAT AGAINST HIS LIFE FROM THE PUZZLER.
THE PUZZLER? WHO'S ME?

I DON'T KNOW. WHOEVER THE PUZZLER IS, HE THREATENED PRENTICE WITH DISASTER FOR NOT PAYING TRIBUTE.
COME ON, CLARK. THIS IS PRESS AGENT HOT AIR--BUT CRUDE!
AREN'T YOU GOING TO THE DAILY PLANET?
I WANT TO DROP IN ON A BUSINESS FRIEND WHO HAS AN OFFICE NEARBY.
A HURRIED SWITCH IN IDENTITY....
PRENTICE MAY STILL BE IN DANGER.
A TARGET--PAINTED ON THE SIDE OF MY CAR! IF I COULD GET MY HANDS ON THE MORONIC HOODLUM WHO DID THIS...!!
BUT LATER...AT THE OUTSKIRTS OF METROPOLIS...
BULLETS--CRASHING INTO THE CAR!
HA! HA! CLEVER GUY, THE PUZZLER!
MURDER AIN'T MONOTONOUS NO MORE SINCE HE MADE A GAME OUTA CRIME!
BACK TO YOUR SOURCE, BULLETS!
FRANTICALLY, THE GANGSTERS POUR A DESPERATE RAIN OF SLUGS AT THE MAN OF TOMORROW. BUT, LEAPING FORWARD, HE BATTERS THEM ASIDE...
AFTER THESE BULLETS--YOUR CHINS!
LOOKIT HIM!
YOU LOOK! I DON'T TRUST MY EYES NO MORE!!
3


SORRY I'VE NO HANDCUFFS --BUT THESE OUGHT TO DO!
HEY!
YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO US! AT LEAST, I HOPE YOU CAN'T!
SWIFTLY, SUPERMAN SEARCHES THEM, AND UPON EACH THUG FINDS...
HALF OF A NAIL-PUZZLE! I SUPPOSE THAT'S THE PUZZLER'S TRADEMARK!
TRY AND FIGURE IT OUT!
I'M SAYING NOTHING!
IN WITH YOU!
C-CAREFUL!
YIPE!
TRANSPORTING THE AUTO TO A POLICE STATION, SUPERMAN SPRINGS OFF....
THANKS FOR SAVING MY LIFE!
("- NOW TO RUSH THIS YARN INTO PRINT!-")
THAT EVENING...
THIS VIOLENCE IS ENTIRELY UNNECESSARY.
THROW A BRICK THRU THE POLICE STATION WINDOW, WILL YOU!
A CELL IS JUST THE THING FOR YOU!
INSIDE THIS CANE--SMALL ELECTRIC BATTERIES. SHOCKING, EH?
SWIFTLY, THE PSEUDO-VAGABOND REMOVES HIS MAKE-UP...ANNEXES KEYS FROM ONE OF THE UNCONSCIOUS JAILERS...
GEE-- THE CHIEF!
IT'S-- THE PUZZLER!
ENGROSSING GAME, EH? I CALL IT-- "COPS AND ROBBERS"!!

DAILY PLANET
PUZZLER GANG ESCAPES!
SPECIAL DELIVERY LETTER FOR CLARK KENT!
I'LL SIGN FOR IT.
THE PUZZLER'S INSIGNIA! OBOY! A NEWS BREAK!
WHEW!
CLARK KENT: COME ALONE TO THE AJAX BUILDING AND I'LL GRANT YOU AN INTERVIEW. --THE PUZZLER
HE'LL BE INTERVIEWED, ALL RIGHT-- BUT BY LOIS LANE!
LATER....
KENT COULDN'T MAKE IT, SO I CAME INSTEAD.
YOU'LL DO!
A GENIUS AT SOLVING PUZZLES, I DECIDED TO UTILIZE THE PRINCIPLES THAT WIN GAMES TO LAUNCH A CRIME CAMPAIGN UNRIVALED IN HISTORY. THAT I'VE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IS A TESTIMONY TO MY BRILLIANCE.
YOU'RE HEADED FOR A DECLINE!
UNEXPECTEDLY, METAL CLAMPS PIN LOIS TO HER CHAIR. BACK GLIDES THE CHAIR ALONG A SLOT TO THE WALL....
ROUND AND 'ROUND THE WHEEL OF FORTUNE SPINS-- BUT SHOULD THE INDICATOR LAND ON THE RED INSTEAD OF THE BLUE SECTION, A STRANGLING DEVICE WILL AUTOMATICALLY PUT YOU OUT OF YOUR MISERY!
NO!!
5

FLASHBACK! TWENTY MINUTES AGO... AT THE OFFICE OF THE DAILY PLANET
DID LOIS GIVE YOU YOUR SPECIAL DELIVERY LETTER?
NO. WHERE IS IT?
!
CLARK'S KEEN EYES HAD QUICKLY LOCATED THE CRUMPLED MISSIVE....
THE FOOLISH GIRL--I'LL BET SHE'S IN A MESS OF TROUBLE!
THE WHEEL--ABOUT TO STOP ON RED!
NATURALLY. IT ALWAYS DOES. I SEE TO THAT!
GUESS WHO?
SUPERMAN!
HOW DARE YOU TAMPER WITH THAT WHEEL!!
HERE'S WHERE I TAMPER WITH YOUR SKULL!
LET ME GO--OR LOIS WILL BE ELECTROCUTED!
DO AS TH' BOSS SAYS--OR ELSE!
YOU THINK OF EVERY-THING, DON'T YOU?
EVERYTHING! NOW THAT THE TABLES ARE REVERSED, PERHAPS YOU'LL LISTEN TO A SPORTING PROPOSITION. PLAY CHECKERS WITH ME. IF YOU WIN, LOIS GOES FREE. BUT IF YOU LOSE, YOU STAND BY AND WATCH HER DIE WITH-OUT LIFTING A FINGER.
A BATTLE OF WITS, EH? I ACCEPT!!
FINE! OH, BY THE WAY, DID I REMEMBER TO INFORM YOU THAT I'M THE WORLD'S MOST BRILLIANT CHECKERS EXPERT?
HO! HO! WOTTA SET-UP! WOTTA CINCH!
6

AND SO BEGINS ONE OF THE MOST FATEFUL GAMES OF CHECKERS THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN....
SO--YOU'RE SOMETHING OF AN EXPERT YOURSELF! ("-I DON'T LIKE THE WAY THINGS ARE GOING. AT THIS RATE, I'LL LOSE!-")
FRANKLY, I'VE ONLY PLAYED THE GAME ONCE BEFORE. BUT BESTING YOU SHOULD BE NO TROUBLE AT ALL... FOR ME!
YOUR MOVE NEXT. ("-SUPERMAN DOESN'T REALIZE IT, BUT I'VE JUST PALMED ONE OF HIS PIECES. THAT LEAVES HIM VULNERABLE AND HELPLESS TO MY ATTACK!-")
SO IT IS. ("-OF ALL THE CLUMSY THIEVES! HERE'S WHERE I FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE!-")
HIS HANDS MOVING SO SWIFTLY THEY CANNOT BE SEEN, SUPERMAN SHIFTS HIS OPPONENT'S PIECES IN AN UNRIVALED FEAT OF SLEIGHT-OF-HAND TRICKERY...
I WIN!
AND I, LOSE! ("-HOW'D HE EVER DO IT? AM I SLIPPING?-")
THERE YOU ARE... SHE'S FREE!
AGAIN I OWE MY LIFE TO YOU!
I WON'T CONSIDER IT SAVED UNTIL I GET YOU FAR AWAY FROM HERE.
SIMPLE-MINDED FOOL... TO THINK I'D LET YOU ESCAPE! PERISH, BOTH OF YOU!!
LOOK OUT!
EASILY, SUPERMAN SMASHES THE FALLING WRECKAGE ASIDE, SHIELDING LOIS....
WHAT REALLY PUZZLES ME IS HOW ANYONE COULD BE AS CONSCIENCE-LESS AS THE PUZZLER!
7
YOU'RE ALL HEADED FOR A POLICE STATION AND THIS TIME TO STAY!
BUT, UNFORTU-NATELY, THE PUZZLER GOT AWAY!
AND LATER...
BEWARE OF ANOTHER ATTEMPT BY THE PUZZLER TO FREE HIS MEN!
WE'LL BE ON GUARD!
QUICK! LEAD ME TO A TELE-PHONE!

HOURS LATER...
ARE YOU SURE THAT A SPECIAL DELIVERY LETTER CAME FOR ME?
I PUT IT RIGHT THERE ON THE DESK!
WHERE CAN IT HAVE DISAPPEARED TO?
IT'S FROM THE PUZZLER... TELLS LOIS TO TURN OVER THIS PIECE FROM A JIG-SAW PUZZLE TO HER PAL, SUPERMAN. HM-MM. ON ONE SIDE OF THE PIECE, THE WORD: WORLD'S. AND ON THE OTHER SIDE THE MESSAGE: THE FIRST CLUE-- "CARPER'S COVE"!
I'VE A HUNCH THE PUZZLER IS TIPPING ME OFF TO HIS NEXT CRIME-- TESTING MY WITS, HMM. THAT OBJECT FLOATING BELOW ON THE WATER... A BOTTLE!
BUT AS SUPERMAN GRASPS THE BOTTLE--HE IS SUDDENLY CAUGHT IN THE MIDST OF A DEADLY WHIRLPOOL...
I GET IT-- A TRAP TO DESTROY ME!
VALIANTLY, THE MAN OF STEEL BATTLES AGAINST THE WHIRLPOOL'S INSIDIOUS STRENGTH— TO SAFETY....
JUST--MADE IT!
SMASHING THE BOTTLE, SUPERMAN EXTRACTS ITS CONTENTS....
A SECOND PUZZLE PIECE, WITH THE WORD: TOUGHEST ON ONE SIDE, AND THE MESSAGE: "SUTTON'S PEAK," ON THE OTHER! THAT MAKES THE MESSAGE, THUS FAR, WORLD'S TOUGHEST!
"SUTTON'S PEAK"-- DIRECTLY AHEAD!
8

THERE'S NOTHING ABOUT- BUT WAIT! HIGH UP IN THE SKY-- A FLOATING BALLOON-- WITH A PUZZLE PIECE ATTACHED!!
SKYWARD HURTLES SUPERMAN! BUT AS HE TOUCHES THE PUZZLE PIECE--THE BALLOON EXPLODES AND A DARK VAPOR ENGULFS HIM....
POISON GAS!
EARTHWARD PLUMMETS THE MAN OF TOMORROW, DAZED BY THE GAS...
FALLING-- FALLING-- A HOUSE BELOW-- GOT TO-- PULL OUT-- OF THIS...
THE SWIFT DESCENT CLEARS HIS MIND!
MISSED IT--BY INCHES!
THE THIRD CLUE-- INTELLECTUAL. THAT MAKES THE MESSAGE SO FAR: WORLD'S TOUGHEST INTELLECTUAL. AND ACCORDING TO THE SCRAWL ON THE BACK OF THE PIECE, MY NEXT DESTINATION IS VASILE VOLCANO...!
INTO THE CRATER OF THE DANGEROUS VOLCANO HURTLES SUPERMAN..
A CYLINDER ON A LEDGE BELOW...
THE MOMENT HE TOUCHES THE CYLINDER, A TRICK ARRANGEMENT CAUSES AN EXPLOSION THAT SENDS HOT LAVA STREAMING TOWARD THE MAN OF TOMORROW....
THE FORCE OF THE EXPLOSION FLINGS SUPERMAN SKYWARD --UNHARMED...!
THE WORD: GAME-- "WORLD'S TOUGHEST INTELLECTUAL GAME!"
AND WRITTEN ON THE BACK OF THE PUZZLE PIECE....
CONGRATULATIONS: I NEVER EXPECTED YOU TO SURVIVE ALL THE TRAPS. BUT NOW THAT YOU KNOW MY MESSAGE, IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER YOU ARE CLEVER ENOUGH TO UTILIZE IT. -- THE PUZZLER!
9

LATER....
WHILE YOU WERE OUT, CLARK, THINGS HAVE BEEN POPPING! THE PUZZLER HAS BEEN PERPETRATING KIDNAPPINGS!
AND AT EACH KIDNAPPING, HE LEFT HIS TRADEMARK! A BENT NAIL!
THE VICTIMS WERE ELMER KING, JOHN BISHOP, SYLVIA QUEEN, CORNELIUS KNIGHT, AND PHILIP CLAUSEN!
("-KING—BISHOP--QUEEN-- KNIGHT--CLAUSEN! I GET IT! WORLD'S TOUGHEST INTELLECTUAL GAME... CHESS!! BUT--WHY CLAUSEN....??-")
A CITY DIRECTORY SUPPLIES THE ANSWER...
PHILIP CLAUSEN IS THE OWNER OF A PAWNSHOP.-- PAWN! THESE PEOPLE WERE KIDNAPPED AND ARE BEING HELD FOR RANSOM BECAUSE THEIR LAST NAMES ARE IDENTICAL WITH THOSE OF CHESS PIECES! THERE REMAINS--CASTLE!
HERE'S THE MOST LIKELY PROSPECT... AMOS CASTLE, OWNER OF THE CASTLE STEEL MILLS.--THIS CALLS FOR SUPERMAN,,, AND SPEED...!!!
BUT AS THE RACING MAN OF TOMORROW NEARS THE CASTLE RESIDENCE, HE SIGHTS A THUG HURLING A FIGURE INTO AN AUTO AND DRIVING OFF..
NOT A SECOND TO SPARE!
AS THE GANGSTER APPARENTLY SIGHTS HIS PURSUER AND LEAPS FROM THE AUTO, SUPERMAN GRINDS IT TO A STOP....
THERE'LL BE NO SMASH-UP IF I CAN HELP IT!
A CLOTH DUMMY! THEY USED THIS RUSE TO LURE ME AWAY WHILE THEY PERPETRATED THE REAL KIDNAPPING! THAT CARD PINNED TO THE DUMMY,,, CARD,,, DUMMY,, --BRIDGE!
THE COUNTRY'S MOST PROMINENT BRIDGE EXPERT IS TOM LEVEL, AND THERE'S A LEVEL BRIDGE NEARBY!
10

IN A SECRET CHAMBER BENEATH THE LEVEL BRIDGE....
WHY DID YOU LEAVE ALL THOSE CLUES FOR SUPERMAN TO FOLLOW?
IT TICKLES MY VANITY TO THINK I CAN OUT-SMART SUPERMAN!
YOU'RE TAKIN' A BIG CHANCE, CHIEF! BUT THAT'S ALL OVER --ONE MINUTE A GALLANT SPORTSMAN, AND THE NEXT A DOUBLE-CROSSER! ("-MUST BE SOMETHING TWISTED IN HIS NATURE,-")
THAT'S DEFINITE! WE REFUSE TO SIGN RANSOM NOTES!
SHALL WE GET TOUGH WITH 'EM, BOSS?
AS YOU PUT IT SO APTLY-- GET TOUGH!
BUT SUPERMAN HAS NOTED THE WHEREABOUTS OF THIS HIDEAWAY WITH THE AID OF HIS AMAZING X-RAY VISION...
GETTING TOUGH IS MY SPECIALTY!
YII-II-II!
IT'S THAT SUPER GUY AGAIN!
NEXT-- MY FIST IN YOUR FACE!
NO, YOU DON'T! NOT WHILE I'VE AN ACE UP MY SLEEVE!
PLEASE NOTE THAT THE TUBE ABOVE MIGS LANE IS FILLED WITH A DEADLY GAS. ABOUT THE LADY IN DISTRESS ARE PHOTO-ELECTRIC CELLS. IF YOU CROSS THE BEAMS, SHE'LL MEET WITH A PAINFUL DEMISE.
STILL ANTICIPATING YOUR OPPONENT'S MOVES, EH?
LOSING THAT GAME OF CHECKERS WAS A SEVERE SHOCK TO MY EGO, I'LL MAKE YOU ANOTHER PROPOSITION, AND THIS TIME I'LL KEEP MY WORD. IF YOU CAN BEAT ME AT CARDS, THE LANE GIRL GOES FREE!
LET'S MAKE THE STAKES REALLY HIGH. TOSS IN YOUR OTHER PRISONERS, TOO, AND IT'S A DEAL!
YOU UNDERSTAND, OF COURSE, THAT THIS TIME MY MEN PLAY, TOO. IT'S TO BE THREE AGAINST ONE!
PLAY CARDS WITH THE PUZZLER MUCH?
LOTS OF TIMES, AND WE ALWAYS LOSE OUR SALARY BACK TO HIM!

JUST A MINUTE! I REFUSE TO SIT IN ON A CROOKED GAME!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN-- CROOKED?
YEAH! WHAT DO YA MEAN?
SUPERMAN AVAILS HIMSELF OF HIS ABILITY TO READ THRU THE BACKS OF CARDS TO TRICK THE OTHERS...
THESE CARDS ARE MARKED! QUEEN OF HEARTS- JACK OF DIAMONDS- ACE OF CLUBS- NINE OF SPADES...
LOOK! HE CALLED 'EM RIGHT!
YA DIRTY DOUBLE-CROSSER! SO THAT'S HOW YA BEEN WINNIN' OUR DOUGH AWAY FROM US!
NO! DON'T! IT'S A TRICK, I TELL YOU-- A TRICK
AND A DARNED GOOD ONE, YOU'LL HAVE TO ADMIT!
AVAILING HIMSELF OF THE OPPORTUNITY, SUPERMAN BURROWS UNDER PHOTO-ELECTRIC CELLS AND COMES UP BESIDE THE TUBE AT SPLIT-SECOND SPEED!
I'LL HAVE YOU OUT OF THAT OVERGROWN BULB IN A MOMENT!
AND A FEW SECONDS LATER, SUPERMAN RETURNS WITH LOIS ALONG THE SAME ROUTE...
END OF THE LINE!
THAT'S THE WEIRDEST TRIP I EVER TOOK!
CAN'T YOU SEE HE TRICKED US SO THAT HE COULD SAVE THE GIRL?
MAYBE HE'S RIGHT!
AS HIS MEN ENGAGE IN HOPELESS COMBAT WITH THE MAN OF STEEL, THE PUZZLER HASTILY EXITS...
A WISE GENERAL KNOWS WHEN TO RETREAT!
AND A COWARD KNOWS HOW TO RUN OUT ON HIS COMRADES WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH!
LOIS AND THE OTHER FORMER CAPTIVES REACH FREEDOM TO SIGHT THEIR EX-CAPTOR SCALING THE CABLES ON THE LEVEL BRIDGE IN A FRANTIC EFFORT TO ESCAPE....
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
AFTER THE PUZZLER!
12

SUPERMAN --PURSUING ME!
SURRENDER NOW, PUZZLER-- AND SAVE YOURSELF ADDITIONAL WOE!
YOU WON'T GET ME!
ARE YOU KIDDING?
I'M NOT!
OO-OOF!
READY TO TROT ALONG TO A CELL LIKE A GOOD LITTLE BOY?
BLAST YOU-- YOU WON'T GET ME ALIVE!
DELIBERATELY TEARING HIMSELF OUT OF HIS JACKET, THE PUZZLER PLUMMETS DOWN— DOWN TOWARD THE FAR DISTANT WATER...
TAKING THE COWARD'S WAY OUT, EH?
BUT THO SUPERMAN SEARCHES THOROUGHLY...
NOT A SINGLE TRACE OF HIM!
13
LATER--- THE DAILY PLANET...
TO ME, THE GREATEST PUZZLE OF ALL IS HOW YOU GOT YOUR FACTS AND TURNED IN THIS STORY BEFORE I COULD!
BRAINS, LOIS-- JUST BRAINS! ("-I WONDER IF THE PUZZLER REALLY PERISHED, OR IF HE AND SUPERMAN ARE FATED TO CROSS WITS AGAIN?-")
THE END

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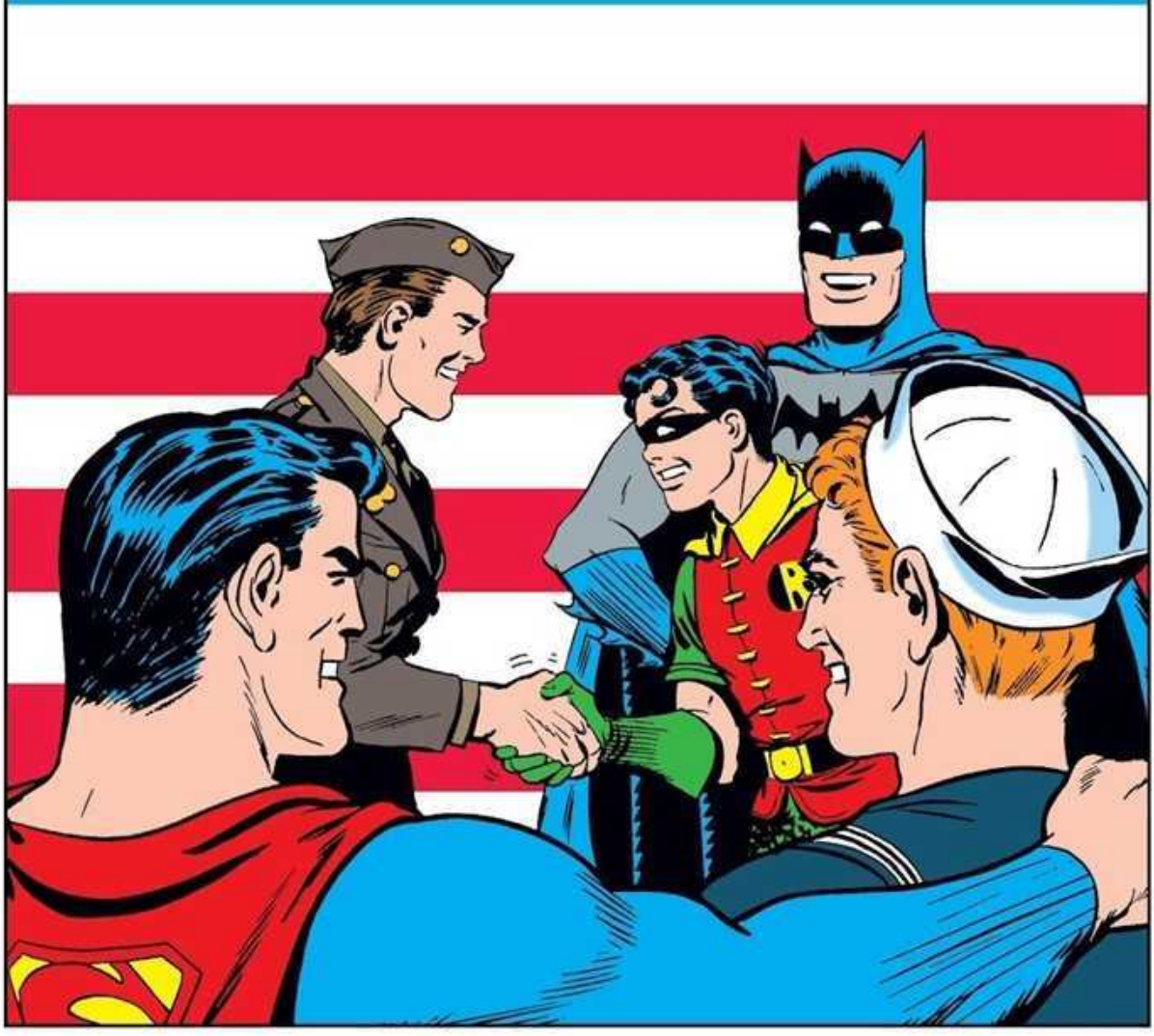
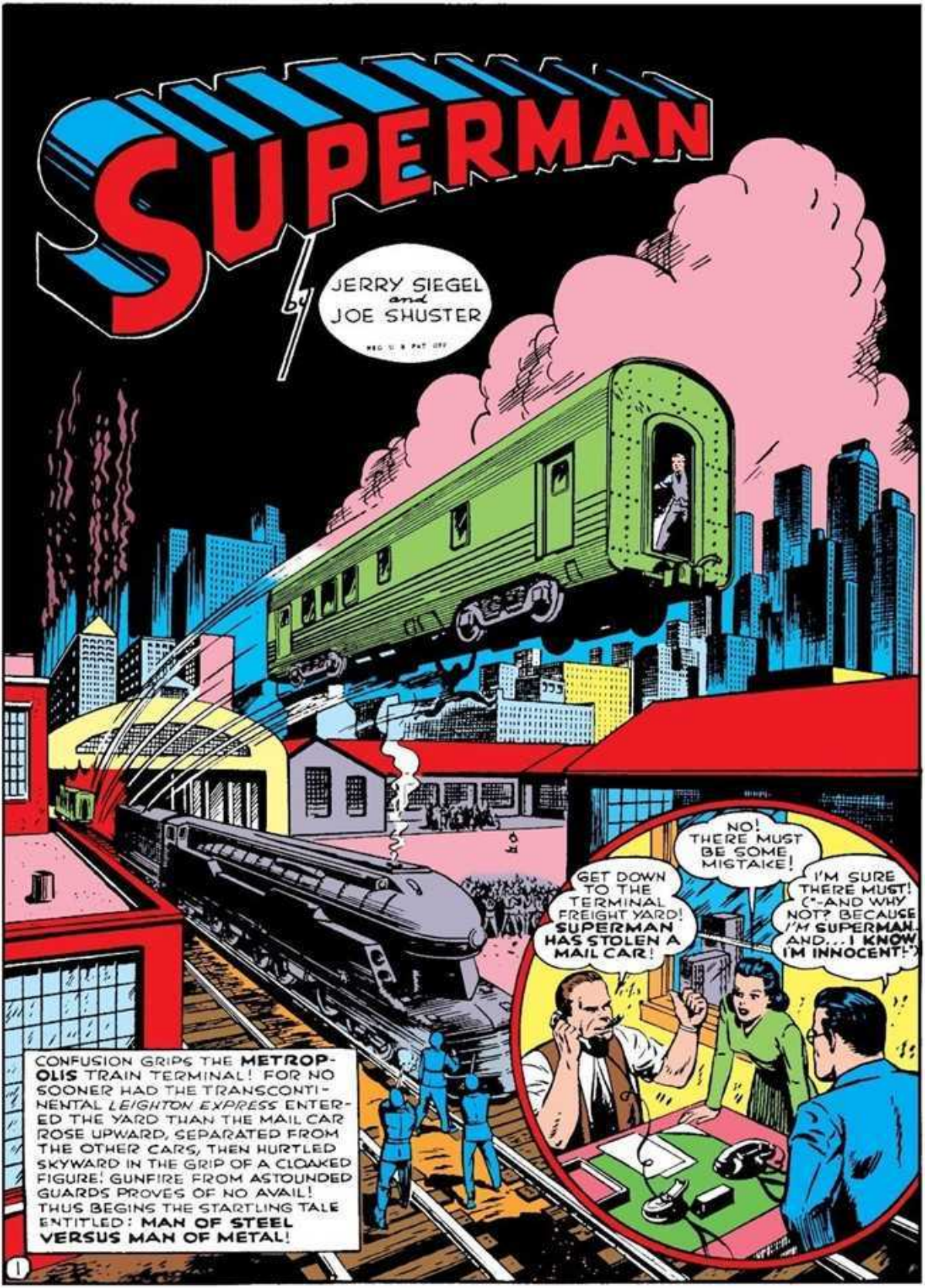
WORLD'S FINEST COMICS




SUPERMAN
by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
GET DOWN TO THE TERMINAL FREIGHT YARD! SUPERMAN HAS STOLEN A MAIL CAR!
NO! THERE MUST BE SOME MISTAKE!
I'M SURE THERE MUST! (*-AND WHY NOT? BECAUSE I'M SUPERMAN, AND... I KNOW I'M INNOCENT!-*)
CONFUSION GRIPS THE METROPOLIS TRAIN TERMINAL! FOR NO SOONER HAD THE TRANSCONTINENTAL LEIGHTON EXPRESS ENTERED THE YARD THAN THE MAIL CAR ROSE UPWARD, SEPARATED FROM THE OTHER CARS, THEN HURTLED SKYWARD IN THE GRIP OF A CLOAKED FIGURE! GUNFIRE FROM ASTOUNDED GUARDS PROVES OF NO AVAIL! THUS BEGINS THE STARTLING TALE ENTITLED: MAN OF STEEL VERSUS MAN OF METAL!
1

BUT AS LOIS HURRIES TOWARD AN ELEVATOR, CLARK SLIPS AWAY...
("-I'M GOING TO EMBARK ON AN INVESTIGATION OF MY OWN...")
--AS SUPERMAN!
AND SO IT OCCURS THAT THE VERY MOMENT LOIS ENTERS HER TAXI...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S DELAYING CLARK. BUT THERE'S NO TIME TO WAIT FOR HIM!
TAXI
...AN INCREDIBLY MUSCULAR FIGURE LEAPS UP TOWARD THE CLOUDS!
UP--- UP-- AND AWAY!
THE TRAIN TERMINAL-- BELOW...!
DOWN TO EARTH CRASHES THE MIGHTY MAN OF STEEL!
NOW TO LOOK FOR A CLUE!
HM-M! THESE COUPLERS WERE OBVIOUSLY TWISTED APART BY POWERFUL HANDS, FREEING THE MAIL CAR! AND THE WAY THOSE FOOTPRINTS ARE SUNK DEEP INTO THE GROUND INDICATE THAT SOMEONE HELD A TERRIFIC WEIGHT OVERHEAD BEFORE LEAPING AWAY WITH IT!
I DON'T GET IT! I THOUGHT THAT I'M THE ONLY ONE CAPABLE OF SUCH A FEAT-- AND YET...THE FACTS INDICATE OTHERWISE!
(PS-ST! HE'S RETURNED!)
(CAREFUL! DON'T LET HIM HEAR US!)
(WE CAN'T LET HIM ESCAPE THIS TIME!)
2

("-OBOY! ANOTHER SECOND AN' WE'LL HAVE HIM!-")
("-WHAT A FEATHER IN OUR CAP!-")
BUT AS SUPERMAN WHIZZES ASIDE UNEXPECTEDLY, THEY CRASH TO THE GROUND!
UH-HH!
OW!
WH-WHERE IS HE?
RIGHT HERE! THANKS TO MY SUPER-ACUTE HEARING, I WAS WARNED AT THE LAST INSTANT!
FAST ON YOUR FEET, AREN'T YOU? BUT THAT WON'T STOP YOU FROM PAYIN' FOR CRIME!
BUT THAT'S WHY I'M HERE--TO DECLARE THAT I'M INNOCENT!
OH, YEAH? AN' MAY I ASK WHO ELSE COULD RUN OFF WITH A RAILWAY CAR IN HIS BARE HANDS?
FRANKLY, I DON'T KNOW! BUT I INTEND TO FIND OUT!
("-IT'S SUPERMAN! HERE'S MY CHANCE TO CAPTURE HIM SINGLE-HANDED!-")
AWK! IT-- IT BENT! AN'--AN' HE JUST SMILES!
WHO WOULDN'T SMILE--AT THE AMAZED EXPRESSION ON YOUR FACE?
TERRIFIED, THE GUARD TURNS TO FLEE. TRIPPING, HE FALLS ON AN ADJOINING TRACK IN THE VERY PATH OF A LOCOMOTIVE...
YIII-III! HELP!
A BARE SECOND BEFORE THE TRAIN CAN STRIKE THE FALLEN GUARD, SUPERMAN STREAKS ACROSS THE TRACKS AND SNATCHES HIS OPPONENT TO SAFETY...
THEY CALL THIS RETURNING GOOD FOR EVIL!
SHORTLY AFTER THE MAN OF TOMORROW LEAPS AWAY, LOIS COMES ONTO THE SCENE...
YOU MEAN-- SUPERMAN WAS HERE JUST A FEW MINUTES AGO?
YEAH! HE CAME BACK TO STEAL ANOTHER CAR!
BUT WE FRIGHTENED HIM OFF!
3

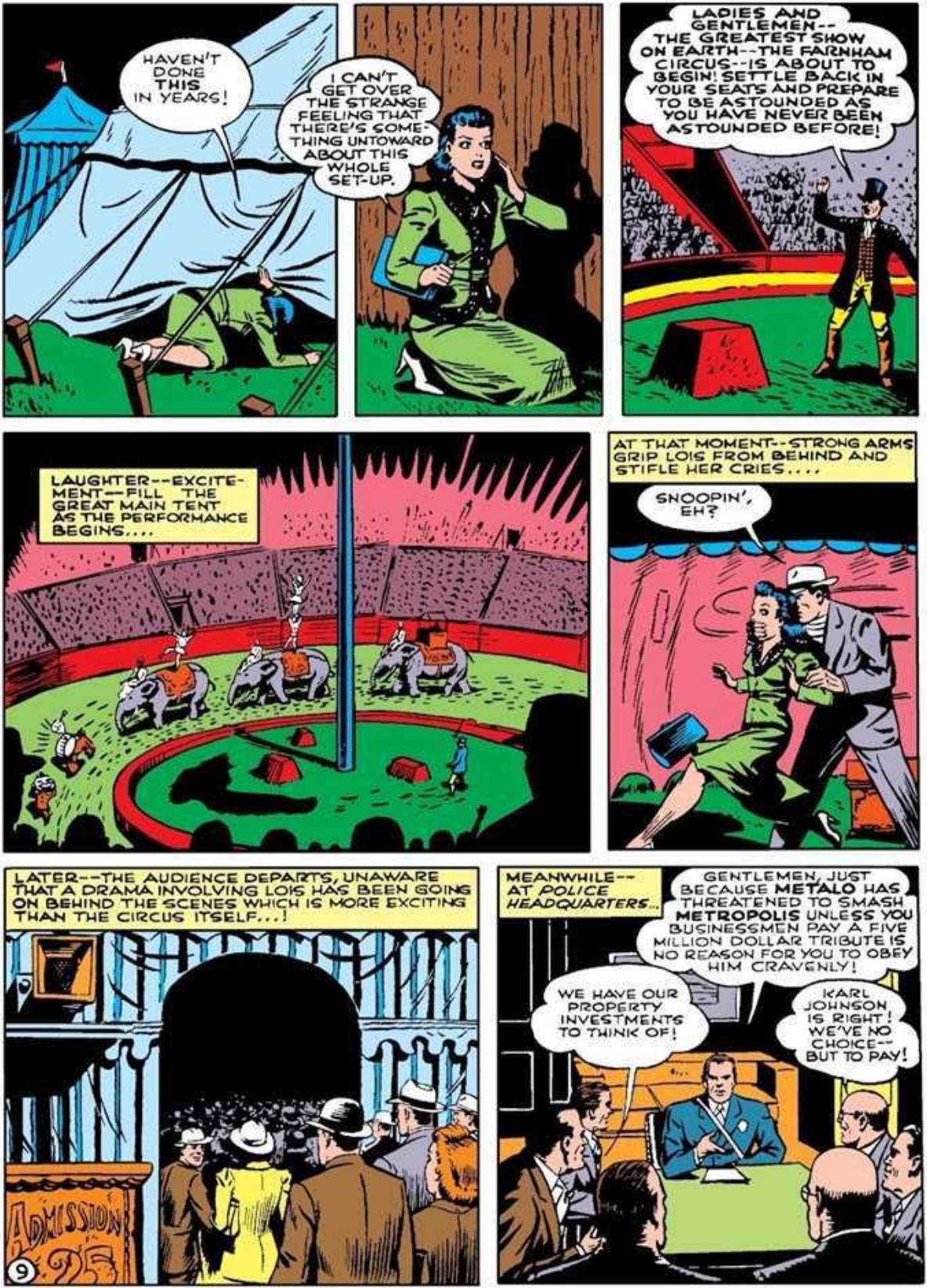
OUTSIDE, LOIS FINDS CLARK WAITING BESIDE HER TAXI....
I JUST GOT HERE!
WELL, WE'RE GOING RIGHT BACK TO THE NEWSPAPER! I'VE ALREADY PICKED UP WHATEVER IS NEWSWORTHY!
SUPERMAN A THIEF! NO MATTER WHAT THE INDICATIONS ARE--I STILL WON'T BELIEVE IT!
YOU'VE A LOT OF FAITH IN YOUR IDOL, HAVEN'T YOU? ("-GOOD FOR YOU, LOIS! IT'S SWELL TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON YOU CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON!")
THE GUARDS CLAIM SUPERMAN TRIED TO MAKE ANOTHER RAID, BUT THAT THEY DROVE HIM OFF. BUT I DON'T BELIEVE THEM!
THE PRIMARY FUNCTION OF A NEWSPAPER IS TO PRINT NEWS...NOT TO INTERPRET IT AS IT SEES FIT. CLARK, IN YOUR ARTICLE, I DON'T WANT YOU TO SPARE SUPERMAN ONE BIT!
AS CLARK WRITES HIS ARTICLE, HE IS APPROACHED BY JIMMY OLSEN, THE DAILY PLANET OFFICE BOY...
HERE'S A STORY YOU MIGHT LOOK INTO, MR. KENT.
WHAT IS IT?
THE FARNHAM CIRCUS HAS OPENED HERE IN METROPOLIS AND IS DOING A CAPACITY BUSINESS. WHAT OF IT?
WELL, I WENT THERE AND NOTICED AN ODD THING. THE ROUSTABOUTS LOOKED MORE LIKE CROOKS THAN CIRCUS WORKERS!
HM-MM. MAYBE YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING. I'LL LOOK INTO IT FIRST CHANCE I GET! YOU'RE AN OBSERVANT LAD!
I HOPE TO BE A TOP-NOTCH REPORTER LIKE YOU SOME DAY!
ANY TIME YOU NEED HELP, FEEL FREE TO CALL ON ME.
THAT'S JUST WHAT I'LL DO. ("-GREAT KID! HE'D MAKE SUPERMAN A SWELL ASSISTANT!-")
4

JUST AS I FEARED! YOU'VE PULLED YOUR PUNCHES! YOU'RE DEFENDING SUPERMAN!
BUT, CHIEF... I'M POSITIVE SUPERMAN WOULDN'T DO ANYTHING CRIMINAL!
QUICK-- TURN ON THE POLICE CALLS!
CALLING ALL CARS! FIGURE SEEN PLUMMETING DOWN TOWARD THE ELSA LINER--BELIEVED TO BE SUPERMAN! THE VESSEL CONTAINS A VALUABLE GOLD CARGO!
WHAT DO YOU SAY, NOW?
NOTHING! I'M GOING TO THE WHARF FOR A LOOK-SEE!
SO SUPERMAN IS ABOUT TO COMMIT ANOTHER CRIME...
SEEING IS BELIEVING!
BUT AS THE MAN OF STEEL HURTLES TOWARD THE WHARF, HE GLIMPSES SOMETHING THAT MAKES HIM DOUBT HIS SUPER-POWERFUL EYESIGHT....
A CAPED FIGURE-- DRAGGING THE HUGE LINER OUT OF THE WATER!
5

A ROBOT!
SUPERMAN, EH? IT WAS FATED THAT WE SHOULD MEET! I AM METALO!
LOOK--SUPERMAN!
THEN HE'S NOT RESPONSIBLE!
MAYBE THE TWO ARE IN CAHOOTS!
I'M RINGING DOWN THE CURTAIN ON YOUR CAREER OF CRIME!
I SEE... AN OPTIMIST!
TO THE MAN OF TOMORROW'S ASTONISHMENT, TWO IRON HANDS SEIZE AND WHIRL HIM ABOUT....
WHAT ARE--?
JUST INDULGING IN MY DAILY EXERCISE!
...THEN HURL HIM AWAY!
HIS STRENGTH --EQUAL TO MY OWN!
BUT ONE OF SUPERMAN'S OUT-FLUNG ARMS CATCHES A TREE LIMB...
HE CAN'T DO THAT TO ME!
...AROUND IT HE WHIRLS....
OR CAN HE?!
--THEN BACK...AND SQUARELY INTO A HARD METAL FIST!
WANT MORE, EH?
I CAN TAKE IT, CHUM--BUT CAN YOU?
6

INTO HIS OPPONENT PLOWS SUPERMAN! THE TWO FOES POUND AT EACH OTHER WITH MACHINE-GUN RAPIDITY, EACH BLOW AS DEAFENING AS A THUNDER-CLAP...
HOW'S THIS FOR DISHING IT OUT?
YOUR STRENGTH IS DEFINITELY NOT OVERRATED!
LOCKED IN A DEADLY GRIP, THE TWO TOPPLE OFF THE WHARF....
YOU'RE GOING TO GET A BATH WHETHER YOU WANT TO OR NOT.
IF YOU THINK WATER WILL ANNOY MY MECHANISM, YOU'RE MISTAKEN. YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY FELLOW IMPERVIOUS TO THE NTH DEGREE!
...AND THE COLOSSAL BATTLE OF TITANS CONTINUES UNDERWATER...!
...AND WHAT A BATTLE! THE VIOLENCE OF THEIR MOVEMENTS CAUSES THE WATER TO FOAM AND FLY FOR MILES! GREAT LINERS ARE TOSSED BY MASSIVE WAVES LIKE TOY BOATS!
AS A SUBMARINE DESPERATELY STRIVES TO REACH PORT, METALO SEIZES HIS OPPORTUNITY....
NOT RUNNING OUT ON A FIGHT?
NOPE, JUST GOING TO MAKE IT MORE INTERESTING!
IN THRU THE SUB'S SIDE CRASHES THE EVIL ROBOT....
MY APOLOGIES, CAPTAIN! BUT--I WANT THAT TORPEDO!
WHERE DID....??
FROM ME TO YOU--WITH LOVE!
JUST A SENTIMENTAL CUSS, EH?
BOOM!
7

WHEN THE EFFECTS OF THE EXPLOSION SUBSIDE, SUPERMAN STILL REMAINS UNHARMED. BUT WHEN HE LOOKS FOR METALO....
GONE! TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A GET-AWAY!
RESUMING HIS IDENTITY AS THE TIMID REPORTER, CLARK KENT RETURNS TO THE PLANET AND ATTENDS A CONFERENCE AT WHICH PROMINENT SCIENTIST GEORGE GRANT OFFERS HIS VIEWS REGARDING METALO....
I KNEW SUPERMAN WASN'T A CRIMINAL!
WHAT MANNER OF CREATURE DO YOU BELIEVE THIS METALO TO BE, GRANT?
POSSIBLY A SUPER-ROBOT FROM ANOTHER PLANET!
LATER....
SO WHAT IF CLARK HAS HEARD A RUMOR THAT THE FARNHAM CIRCUS ABOUNDS WITH CRIMINALS! I WORK HERE, TOO!
CALM DOWN, LOIS. YOU CAN ACCOMPANY CLARK ON HIS INVESTIGATION.
FINE THING. I DIG UP A STORY, AND SHE WANTS TO MUSCLE IN ON THE CREDIT!
THAT REPORT WASN'T EXAGGERATED. THOSE CERTAINLY ARE TOUGH HOMBRES!
I'M GOING TO SEE THE OWNER OF THE CIRCUS AND DEMAND AN EXPLANATION!
BEAT IT! THE BOSS AIN'T SEEING REPORTERS!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SHOVE ME!
BEAT IT!
COME ON, CLARK! IF WE'RE NOT WANTED HERE, WE CAN GO!
ENTRANCE
DON'T YOU WANT TO GO BACK TO THE PLANET WITH ME?
THERE'S SOME SHOPPING I WANT TO DO IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD. SEE YOU LATER. ("-SOMETHING ODD GOING ON HERE! I'M GOING TO INVESTIGATE!-")
8

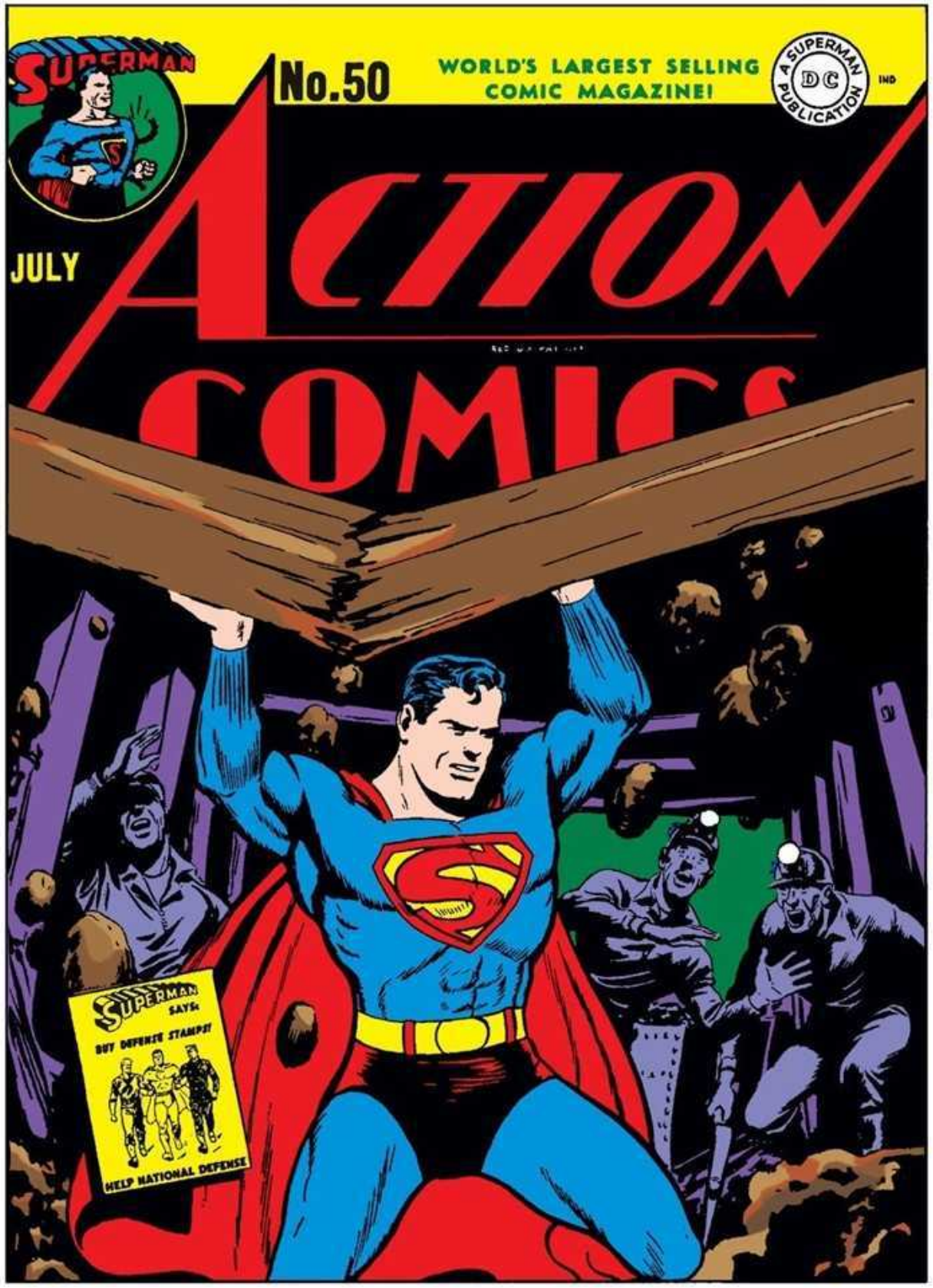

HAVEN'T DONE THIS IN YEARS!
I CAN'T GET OVER THE STRANGE FEELING THAT THERE'S SOMETHING UNTOWARD ABOUT THIS WHOLE SET-UP.
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN--THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH--THE FARNHAM CIRCUS--IS ABOUT TO BEGIN! SETTLE BACK IN YOUR SEATS AND PREPARE TO BE ASTOUNDED AS YOU HAVE NEVER BEEN ASTOUNDED BEFORE!
LAUGHTER--EXCITEMENT--FILL THE GREAT MAIN TENT AS THE PERFORMANCE BEGINS....
AT THAT MOMENT--STRONG ARMS GRIP LOIS FROM BEHIND AND STIFLE HER CRIES....
SNOOPIN', EH?
LATER--THE AUDIENCE DEPARTS, UNAWARE THAT A DRAMA INVOLVING LOIS HAS BEEN GOING ON BEHIND THE SCENES WHICH IS MORE EXCITING THAN THE CIRCUS ITSELF...!
ADMISSION .75
MEANWHILE--AT *POLICE HEADQUARTERS*...
GENTLEMEN, JUST BECAUSE **METALO** HAS THREATENED TO SMASH **METROPOLIS** UNLESS YOU BUSINESSMEN PAY A FIVE MILLION DOLLAR TRIBUTE IS NO REASON FOR YOU TO OBEY HIM CRAVENLY!
WE HAVE OUR PROPERTY INVESTMENTS TO THINK OF!
KARL JOHNSON IS RIGHT! WE'VE NO CHOICE--BUT TO PAY!
9

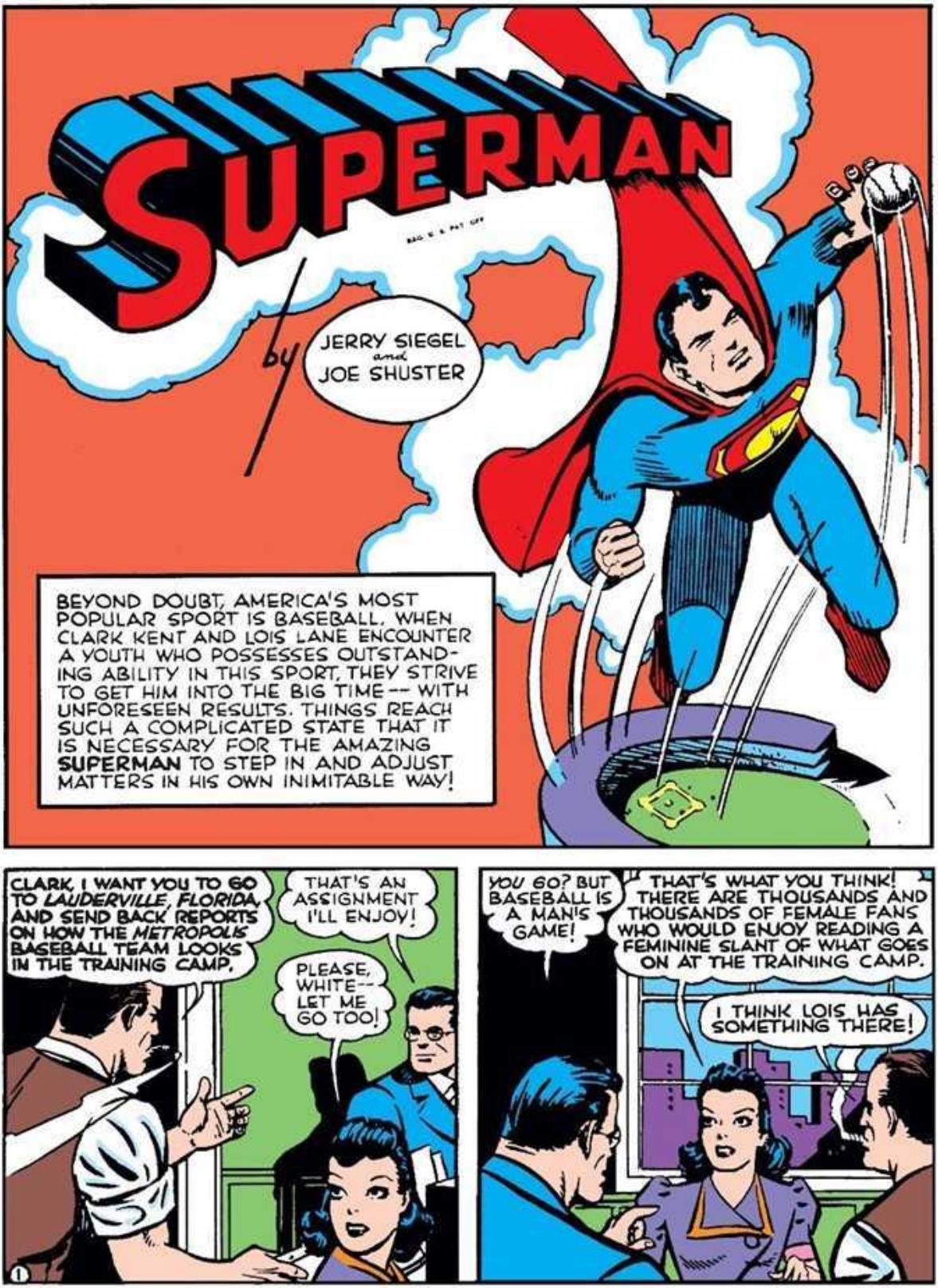
CLARK, THE LEADING BUSINESSMEN OF OUR CITY, LED BY KARL JOHNSON, ARE DETERMINED TO PAY METALO THE RANSOM HE DEMANDS. I'VE A SENSATIONAL IDEA. HOW ABOUT YOU DELIVERING THE RANSOM MONEY?
THEN WRITING UP WHAT I OBSERVED, EH? SOUNDS GOOD!
THE RANSOM MONEY IS BROUGHT TO THE DAILY PLANET...
HERE IS THE MONEY!
STILL DETERMINED TO PAY, EH, MR. JOHNSON?
HERE'S WHERE I TAKE OVER!
LATER--AT THE APPOINTED SPOT....
WE'LL TAKE THAT BAG!
TAKE ME TO YOUR LEADER. I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO HIM.
WE'RE HERE TO GET THAT DOUGH--NOT TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.
HE WON'T BE ASKING QUESTIONS AGAIN FOR A LONG TIME TO COME!
BUT AS THE THUGS DRIVE OFF, THEIR APPARENTLY UNCONSCIOUS VICTIM LEAPS UP AND SWITCHES TO A WELL-KNOWN ACTION COSTUME
THEY'LL LEAD ME DIRECT TO METALO!
MINUTES LATER...FROM A VANTAGE POINT HIGH IN THE SKY THE MAN OF TO-MORROW OBSERVES...
THEY'RE ENTERING THE MAIN TENT OF THE FARNHAM CIRCUS! NOW TO CONFRONT THEM!
10

BUT AS HE ENTERS THE TENT...
EMPTY!--NO SIGN OF THEM! BUT--THERE MUST BE SOME RATIONAL EXPLANATION!
AVAILING HIMSELF OF HIS MARVELOUS X-RAY VISION, SUPERMAN LEARNS THE ANSWER....
BENEATH THE GROUND --A HIDDEN CHAMBER... THE STANDS CAN BE RAISED OR LOWERED AT WILL BY A SECRET MECHANISM...! BUT WHAT ELSE GOES ON DOWN THERE?!
AH--THE FIVE MILLION DOLLARS RANSOM...
HAVE YA DECIDED YET WHAT TO DO WITH THIS GAL REPORTER?
I KNOW WHAT I'M GOING TO DO --DESTROY THAT INHUMAN CREATURE!
THE BULLETS— THEY-- THEY'RE...
BOUNCING OFF ME? SUPERMAN HASN'T A MONOPOLY ON THAT CONVENIENT LITTLE FEAT!
SNATCHING UP LOIS, THE RUTHLESS ROBOT HURLS HER FORM AT THE WALL WITH ALL THE STRENGTH HE CAN MUSTER..
SHE'S INTERFERED ENOUGH!
BUT AT THAT INSTANT... TWO HANDS CRASH THRU THE EARTHEN WALL... CATCH LOIS' FIGURE GENTLY....
WHAT --?
HANDS-- OUT OF TH' EARTH --??
WE'RE SEEIN' THINGS!
A MOMENT LATER, SUPERMAN CRASHES INTO VIEW....
BURROWING DOWN INTO THE EARTH WAS SIMPLE --BUT GIVING YOU CRIMINALS THE FATE YOU DESERVE WILL BE EVEN EASIER...
STOP HIM! YOUR LIVES DEPEND ON IT!
11

LIKE SLICING THRU BUTTER!
BUT AT LEAST WE'LL GET THE DAME!
NOT IF I GET YOU FIRST!
YIPE!
YOU'RE DOING TOO WELL, SUPERMAN-- THEREFORE, I THINK IT WISE TO KILL ALL OF YOU WHILE I MAKE AN EXIT!
AS THE WALLS BEGIN TO CRUMBLE, SUPERMAN DESPERATELY STRIVES TO KEEP THEM ERECT...
QUICK, LOIS! OPERATE THE STAND'S CONTROLS! SAVE YOURSELF WHILE YOU CAN!
THE EMPTY STANDS IN THE MAIN TENT DESCEND BENEATH THE GROUND'S SURFACE....
MINUTES LATER THEY RETURN, BEARING LOIS TO SAFETY BUT UNEXPECTEDLY METALO CONFRONTS LOIS....
KEEP AWAY!
YOU'RE COMING WITH ME!
THAT MOMENT--THE GROUND CAVES IN ON SUPERMAN...!
AND SIMULTANEOUSLY, METALO SNATCHES UP LOIS AND STREAKS OFF WITH HER....
CONCEIVABLY, I MIGHT STILL FIND YOU NECESSARY AS A SHIELD!
12

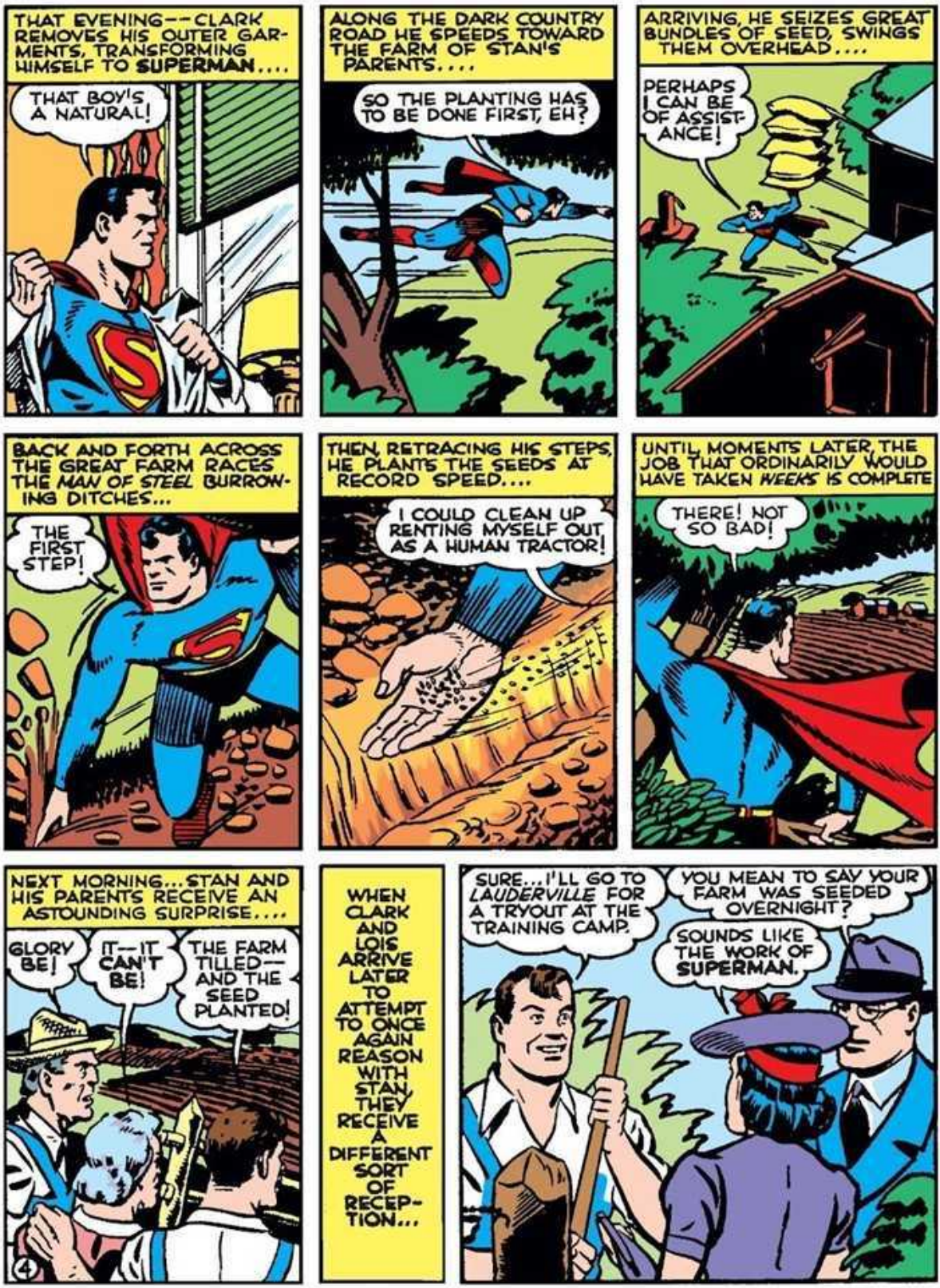
EMERGING UNHARMED, SUPERMAN STREAKS UP INTO THE SKY AFTER THE FLEEING METAL-MAN!
HE'S RACING OFF WITH LOIS...!
REACHING HIS MOUNTAINOUS HIDEOUT, METALO REVEALS HIS IDENTITY TO LOIS....
AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M AN INVENTOR WHO HAS DISCOVERED NOT ONLY THE MOST POWERFUL METAL ON EARTH, BUT STRENGTH SERUM!
YOU'LL NEED IT!
SIGHTING SUPERMAN, METALO FLINGS HUGE BOULDERS AT HIM -- THE MAN OF STEEL REPLIES IN SUIT...
BLAST YOU -- CAN'T ANYTHING DESTROY YOU?
THAT WOULD BE TELLING!
THE VERY MOUNTAINS TREMBLE AND ARE RENT ASUNDER BY THE COLOSSAL BATTLE OF THESE TWO SUPER-POWERFUL OPPONENTS...!
METALO TOPPLES INTO A CREVICE TORN INTO THE GROUND....
YIII-III!
MOLTEN LAVA BELOW-- HE'S DONE FOR...!
AS SUPERMAN SPRINGS BACK TOWARD CIVILIZATION WITH THE GIRL REPORTER....
I'M GLAD THE WORLD IS RID OF THAT TERRIBLE METALO--BUT IT'S TOO BAD YOU COULDN'T HAVE SAVED THE RANSOM MONEY.
BUT I DID-- I REPLACED THE RANSOM MONEY WITH WORTHLESS PAPER. EVERY CENT WILL BE RETURNED.
METALO HAS NARROWLY ESCAPED DESTRUCTION IN THE LAVA, BY GRASPING AN OUTJUTTING ROCK
TRICKED--BY THE MAN OF TOMORROW! BUT I WON'T FORGET! AND IN OUR NEXT ENCOUNTER--HE'LL PAY FOR IT!
DAYS LATER... AT A SPECIAL EVENT GIVEN IN HONOR OF SUPERMAN'S SERVICES TO METROPOLIS....
WE OWE SUPERMAN A DEBT WE CAN NEVER REPAY!
THRILLING, EH, CLARK?
I'M SURE THAT IF SUPERMAN WERE HERE HE'D AGREE WITH YOU, LOIS!
THE END
13


SUPERMAN
No.50
WORLD'S LARGEST SELLING COMIC MAGAZINE!
A SUPERMAN PUBLICATION
DC
IND
JULY
ACTION COMICS
SUPERMAN SAYS:
BUY DEFENSE STAMPS!
HELP NATIONAL DEFENSE


SUPERMAN
by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
BEYOND DOUBT, AMERICA'S MOST POPULAR SPORT IS BASEBALL. WHEN CLARK KENT AND LOIS LANE ENCOUNTER A YOUTH WHO POSSESSES OUTSTANDING ABILITY IN THIS SPORT, THEY STRIVE TO GET HIM INTO THE BIG TIME -- WITH UNFORESEEN RESULTS. THINGS REACH SUCH A COMPLICATED STATE THAT IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE AMAZING SUPERMAN TO STEP IN AND ADJUST MATTERS IN HIS OWN INIMITABLE WAY!
CLARK, I WANT YOU TO GO TO LAUDERVILLE, FLORIDA, AND SEND BACK REPORTS ON HOW THE METROPOLIS BASEBALL TEAM LOOKS IN THE TRAINING CAMP.
THAT'S AN ASSIGNMENT I'LL ENJOY!
PLEASE, WHITE-- LET ME GO TOO!
1
YOU GO? BUT BASEBALL IS A MAN'S GAME!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK! THERE ARE THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS OF FEMALE FANS WHO WOULD ENJOY READING A FEMININE SLANT OF WHAT GOES ON AT THE TRAINING CAMP.
I THINK LOIS HAS SOMETHING THERE!

LATER--ABOARD A TRAIN BOUND FOR LAUDERVILLE...
WELL, CLARK--IT LOOKS LIKE YOU COULDN'T GET RID OF ME EVEN IF YOU WANTED TO.
THE TRAIN APPEARS TO BE STOPPING.
WE MAY BE HERE FIFTEEN MINUTES. WHAT SAY WE STOP INTO THE STATION FOR A BITE?
CASTLE-RIDGE, EH? LOOKS LIKE A TYPICAL SMALL TOWN
CASTLE DGE
SEVERAL MOMENTS LATER...
CLARK! THE TRAIN-- PULLING OUT!!
ULP!-- WHA--??
IT'S GONE!
TRAIN WILL BE HERE FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES, EH?--LOIS, YOU GOT US INTO A FINE MESS!
DON'T BE LIKE THAT. WE'LL BE OUT OF THIS HICK TOWN IN NO TIME!
I HOPE SO!
TICK TS
WHEN WILL THE NEXT TRAIN BOUND FOR LAUDERVILLE ARRIVE?
IN TWO HOURS!
TWO HOURS?
IF YOU DON'T STOP COMPLAINING I'LL GET OFF THIS BENCH AND NOT SPEAK ANOTHER WORD TO YOU!
BUT I ONLY SAID..!
A SUDDEN GLINT OF INTEREST APPEARS IN CLARK'S EYE AS HE NOTES WHAT IS OCCURRING ACROSS THE TRACKS.
2

THERE IS AN ALTERCATION BETWEEN TWO BASEBALL TEAMS....
TIME FOR THE GAME TO START.
BUT WHAT'S THE USE OF STARTING AT ALL? IF STAN PLAYS AGAINST US, WE HAVEN'T A CHANCE OF WINNING. SO WHY PLAY IN THE FIRST PLACE?
YOU CAN'T BACK DOWN NOW!
THE GAME BEGINS. BUT THE REASON FOR THE RELUCTANCE OF ONE OF THE TEAMS TO PLAY IS EVIDENT WHEN STAN, ON THE PITCHING MOUND, RAPIDLY STRIKES OUT ONE MAN AFTER ANOTHER....
.... SO THAT NOT A SINGLE ONE OF HIS OPPONENTS EVEN COMES NEAR TO TOUCHING THE BALL...!
AW..! I GIVE UP! THIS GAME IS A FARCE!
SA-AY! THAT PITCHER'S GOOD!
GOOD! HE'S MARVELOUS! LET'S TALK TO HIM!
YOU REALLY CAN HEAVE THAT BALL! EVER THOUGHT OF TAKING UP BASEBALL AS A PROFESSIONAL?
YOU MEAN, TRY AN' MAKE A LIVIN' AT IT? NAW! COULDN'T BE BOTHERED WITH SUCH FOOLISHNESS.
FOOLISHNESS? WITH THAT CONTROL OF YOURS, YOU COULD MAKE A FORTUNE!
NOPE. NOT INTER-ESTED.
BUT IN HEAVEN'S NAME, WHY?
YES-- WHY?
3
SOME PLANTING TO BE DONE--COULDN'T THINK OF LEAVING THE FARM 'TIL IT'S TAKEN CARE OF.
THE NEXT TRAIN FOR LAUDERVILLE COMES--AND DEPARTS WITHOUT THE TWO REPORTERS.
THERE MUST BE A HOTEL OF SOME SORT HERE.
WE'VE GOT TO CONVINCE THAT BOY HE HAS A CAREER AHEAD OF HIM!


THAT EVENING--CLARK REMOVES HIS OUTER GARMENTS, TRANSFORMING HIMSELF TO SUPERMAN....
THAT BOY'S A NATURAL!
ALONG THE DARK COUNTRY ROAD HE SPEEDS TOWARD THE FARM OF STAN'S PARENTS....
SO THE PLANTING HAS TO BE DONE FIRST, EH?
ARRIVING, HE SEIZES GREAT BUNDLES OF SEED, SWINGS THEM OVERHEAD....
PERHAPS I CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE!
BACK AND FORTH ACROSS THE GREAT FARM RACES THE MAN OF STEEL BURROWING DITCHES...
THE FIRST STEP!
THEN, RETRACING HIS STEPS, HE PLANTS THE SEEDS AT RECORD SPEED....
I COULD CLEAN UP RENTING MYSELF OUT AS A HUMAN TRACTOR!
UNTIL, MOMENTS LATER, THE JOB THAT ORDINARILY WOULD HAVE TAKEN WEEKS IS COMPLETE
THERE! NOT SO BAD!
NEXT MORNING...STAN AND HIS PARENTS RECEIVE AN ASTOUNDING SURPRISE....
GLORY BE!
IT--IT CAN'T BE!
THE FARM TILLED--AND THE SEED PLANTED!
4
WHEN CLARK AND LOIS ARRIVE LATER TO ATTEMPT TO ONCE AGAIN REASON WITH STAN, THEY RECEIVE A DIFFERENT SORT OF RECEPTION...
SURE...I'LL GO TO LAUDERVILLE FOR A TRYOUT AT THE TRAINING CAMP.
YOU MEAN TO SAY YOUR FARM WAS SEEDED OVERNIGHT?
SOUNDS LIKE THE WORK OF SUPERMAN.

REMEMBER --WHEN YOU REACH THE TRAINING CAMP, ASK FOR CLARK KENT!
GOODBYE, STAN!
SEE YOU IN ABOUT A WEEK, MR. KENT!
ARRIVING AT LAUDERVILLE, CLARK IMMEDIATELY PRAISES STAN TO THE SKIES TO THE METROPOLIS RAVENS' MANAGER.
BUT THIS LAD IS A WONDER.
AND SO IS EVERY OTHER BASEBALL-STRUCK KID SUPPOSED TO BE! DON'T BOTHER ME WITH THAT NONSENSE
ONE EVENING, CLARK SEES JACK STANDISH, ONE OF THE RAVENS' STAR PERFORMERS, IN A STREET BRAWL....
NOTHING MUCH HAS BEEN HAPPENING AT THE TRAINING CAMP...PERHAPS THIS OUGHT TO RATE A FEW PARAGRAPHS.
NEXT MORNING...
WHAT'S THE IDEA OF PRINTING THIS STORY?
I--I ONLY PRINTED THE FACTS...
IF YOU EVER SET FOOT IN THIS CAMP AGAIN, I'LL REALLY LOSE MY TEMPER!
STOP! I--I WON'T STAND FOR THIS HUMILIATION!
--AND STAY OUT!
IN TROUBLE AGAIN, EH?
LATER THAT DAY.... STAN DOBORAK ARRIVES AT THE TRAINING CAMP...
SO YOU'RE A FRIEND OF THAT NO-GOOD CLARK KENT, EH? GET OUT OF THIS TRAINING CAMP AND DON'T COME BACK!
5
LOOK, CLARK --LOOK WHO'S COMING!
SO THERE YOU ARE!
A to C

WHY DID YOU DO IT?
HE MADE ME COME ALL THE WAY TO LAUDERVILLE FOR NOTHING...I'M GOING BACK TO CASTLERIDGE WHERE I BELONG!
OH-HHH... MY CHIN!
STAN--YOU MUSTN'T. YOU MAY STILL GET A BREAK!
I KNOW WHEN I'VE BEEN A FOOL. I'M TAKING THE FIRST TRAIN BACK!
HE'S GONE—GONE! AND IT'S YOUR FAULT!
BUT HE DIDN'T GIVE ME A CHANCE TO FIX THINGS!
YOU'VE ALREADY FIXED THINGS ENOUGH!
OUCH!
PLEASE DON'T SPEAK TO ME!
IT LOOKS LIKE CLARK KENT HAS BEEN THE CAUSE OF A BEAUTIFUL MESS...
BUT MAYBE SUPERMAN CAN MAKE EVERYTHING OKAY!
6

DOWN TOWARD THE CASTLE-RIDGE-BOUND TRAIN STREAKS THE MAN OF STEEL, LATER...
HE'LL NOT PASS UP AN IMPORTANT CAREER IF I CAN HELP IT!

CLINGING TO THE SIDE OF THE TRAIN, SUPERMAN PERFORMS AN AMAZING STUNT--HE OPENS A PULLMAN WINDOW...!
FRED ALLEN WOULD GET A KICK OUT OF THIS!

WH-WHAT KINDA STRANGE PERSON ARE YOU?
I'M KNOWN AS SUPERMAN AND I OFTEN USE MY TREMENDOUS POWERS TO HELP PEOPLE. WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A BIG LEAGUE PITCHER?

UNNOTICED BY GUARDS MANAGER FLETCHER HAD POSTED ABOUT THE CAMP, THE MAN OF TOMORROW EASILY HURTLES OVER THEIR HEADS INTO THE CAMP...

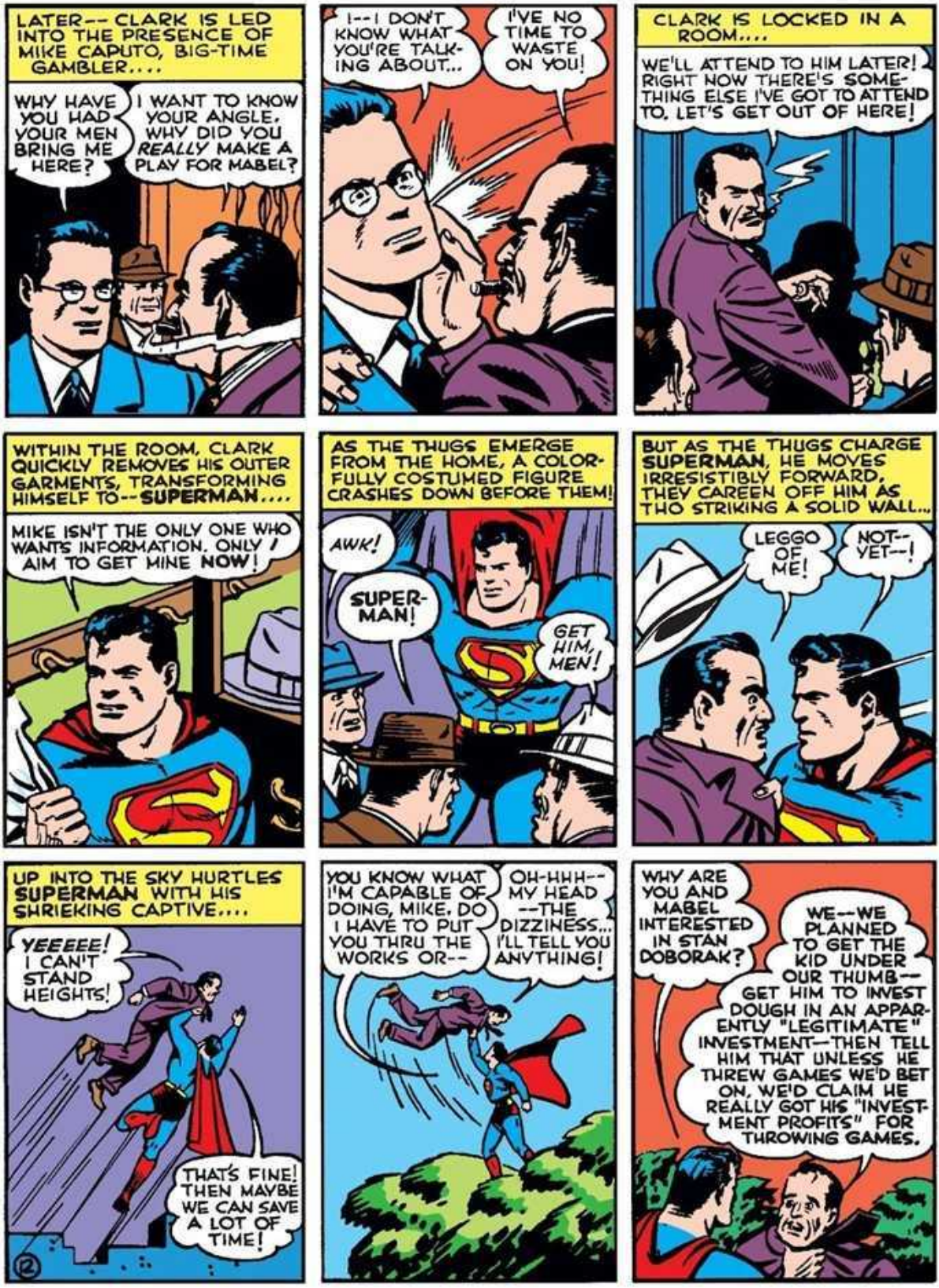
MINUTES LATER.... IN THE DESERTED LOCKER-ROOM...
THERE! NOW THAT YOU'VE GOT A UNIFORM, GO OUT THERE AND SHOW THEM WHAT YOU CAN REALLY DO!
OKAY, MR. SUPERMAN, BUT I SURE FEEL SHAKY ABOUT THE WHOLE THING!

STAN NERVOUSLY EMERGES ONTO THE PLAYING FIELD...
OH-OH...FLETCHER'S LOOKING MY WAY... HE'S SEEN ME...
HEY! THERE'S THAT RUBE YOU ORDERED OFF THE PLACE! SHALL I THROW HIM OUT?
SO HE DISREGARDED MY ORDERS, EH? NO.--DON'T THROW HIM OUT. I'VE A BETTER IDEA. I'LL HUMILIATE HIM BY PUTTING HIM UP AGAINST MY BEST BATTERS. WILL HE LOOK SILLY!
FINE! UNLESS MY SUPER-ACUTE HEARING DECEIVES ME, STAN IS GOING TO GET THE BREAK HE DESERVES.
YOU MEAN--YOU'RE GOING TO GIVE ME A CHANCE TO PITCH?
THAT'S RIGHT, SON! NOW GO IN THERE! C"-...AND MAKE A BIG FOOL OUTA YOURSELF!?
AS JACK STANDISH STEPS INTO THE BATTER'S BOX, HE CAN'T PREVENT A SMIRK OF ANTICIPATION FROM CROSSING HIS FEATURES...
I'LL SMACK THAT BALL SO CLOSE TO THE PITCHER, HE'LL JUMP SKY-HIGH!
BUT AS STANDISH SWINGS FOR THE ONCOMING BALL, IT UNEXPECTEDLY DROPS IN A CURVE...
HEY!
...AND HE FLAILS EMPTY AIR!
8
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU, STANDISH?
I MUST HAVE SLIPPED, BUT I'LL GET THE NEXT ONE!

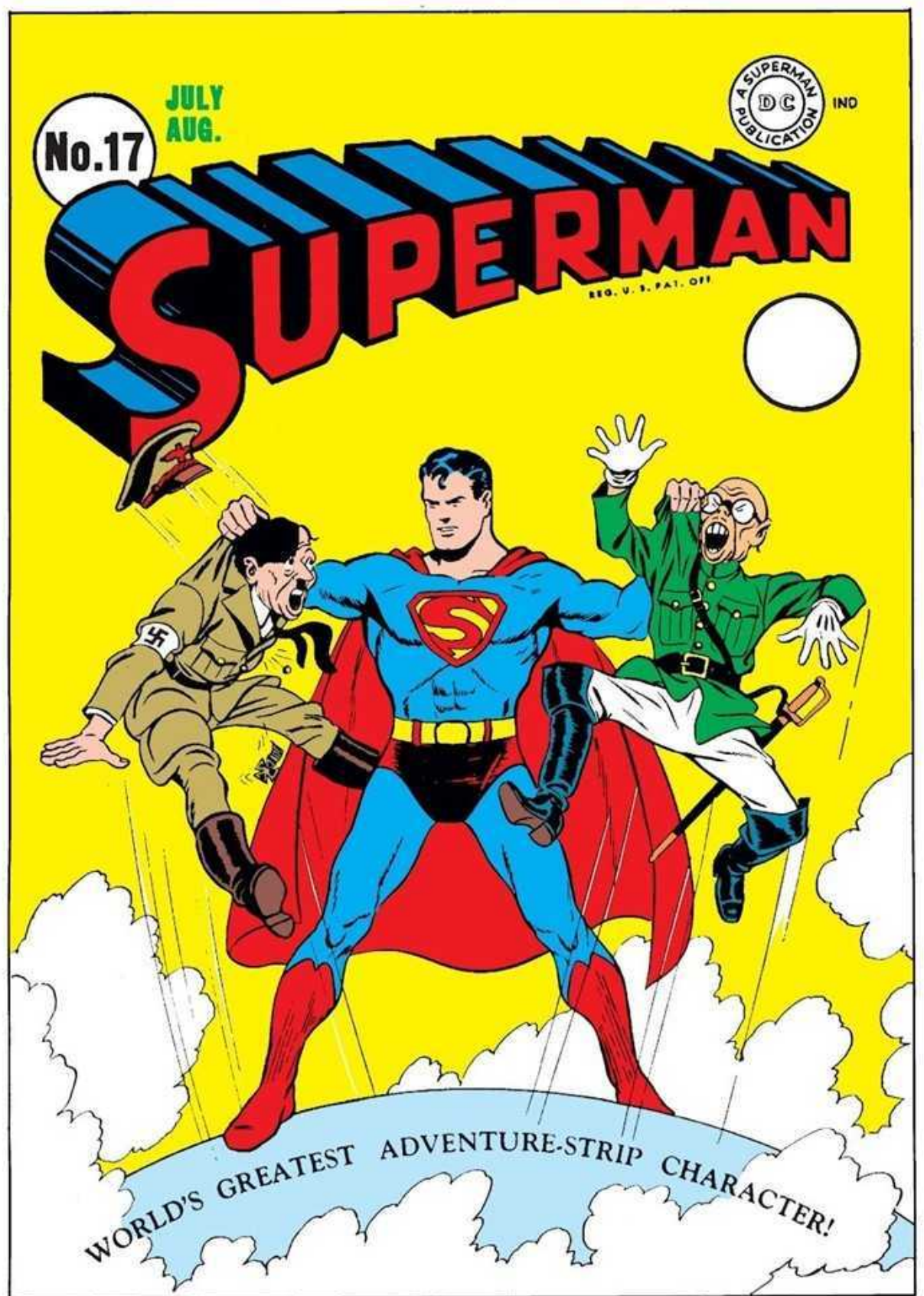
STAN WINDS UP IN UNORTHODOX FASHION...
THIS IS GOING TO BE EVEN EASIER THAN I EXPECTED!
TWICE MORE JACK STANDISH MISSES THOSE STREAKING BALLS....
UGH!
SAY! MAYBE THE KID'S OKAY, AFTER ALL!
HE JUST HAD LUCK! WAIT TILL HE FACES THE OTHER BATTERS!
BUT STAN STRIKES OUT OTHER BATTERS JUST AS EASILY...!
I TAKE BACK EVERYTHING I SAID, DOBORAK! YOU'VE GOT GREAT POSSIBILITIES.
GEE! THEN YOU MEAN--?
WE COULD USE A MARVEL LIKE YOU!
THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO HEAR!
9
BACK IN METROPOLIS....
THESE DISPATCHES FROM LAUDERVILLE ABOUT THE RAVENS' NEW DISCOVERY MAKE INTERESTING READING!
UNDER FLETCHER'S EXPERT TUTELAGE, STAN RAPIDLY ASSUMES POLISH....
CLARK KENT GAVE ME MY FIRST BREAK. I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU'D LET HIM INTO THE TRAINING CAMP AGAIN.
WHATEVER YOU SAY, DOBORAK!

WHEN THE PLAYING SEASON BEGINS, THE HEADLINES ARE PACKED WITH PRAISE FOR STAN.
SPORTS
RAVEN HURLER SENSATIONAL
PITCHES 2-HIT FOR
STAN DOBORAK
DOBORAK HURLS NO-HIT GAME!
STRIKES OUT 18 MEN
STAN BECOMES THE IDOL OF THE FANS... AND... IT GOES TO HIS HEAD...!
IF YOU HADN'T BEEN SO BUSY TAKING BOWS TODAY, WE MIGHT HAVE WON THAT GAME...
I'LL WIN THE NEXT GAME SINGLE-HANDED. SEE IF I DON'T!
DOBORAK IS OFTEN INVOLVED IN FIGHTS WITH HIS TEAM-MATES....
IT'S A PITY, CLARK, TO SEE THE WAY THAT YOUNG PITCHER IS RUINING HIS CAREER.
SH-HH! HERE HE COMES NOW.
HELLO!
CAN YOU BEAT THAT? HE SNUBBED US COLD!
CLARK'S SUPER-SENSITIVE HEARING OVERHEARS--
DO YOU THINK IT WAS WISE OF ME TO CUT THEM LIKE THAT? AFTER ALL...
CONTINUE TO DO AS I SAY, MY BOY--BE NICE TO THE RIGHT PEOPLE--AND YOU'LL REALLY GO PLACES!
GEE, MABEL--YOUR ADVICE HAS GOT A LOT OF PEOPLE SORE AT ME, BUT--I TRUST YOU IMPLICITLY!
THAT'S THE WAY TO TALK! LEAVE ALL THE BRAIN WORK TO ME!
CLARK, THAT GIRL, MABEL DAWSON, HAS BEEN SEEN EVERYWHERE WITH STAN-- IT'S MY OPINION THAT SHE'S RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS CHANGE FROM A NICE KID TO A CONCEITED LUG. AND YOU'RE GOING TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.
ME?? UH-- WHAT?
10

WHAT COULD I DO?
MAKE A PLAY FOR HER. STEAL HER FROM STAN--LET HIM SEE HOW FICKLE SHE IS. THEN MAYBE HE'LL COME TO HIS SENSES.
BUT-- BUT HOW COULD I DO THAT?
ROMANCE HER, IDIOT! SHOWER FLOWERS, JEWELRY, THEATRE TICKETS, ATTENTION-- ANYTHING TO KEEP HER AWAY FROM STAN DOBORAK!
THAT EVENING--IN MABEL DAWSON'S APARTMENT....
SOME REPORTER NAMED KENT SENT ME A TON OF FLOWERS AND A NOTE SAYING HE'S CALLING TONIGHT. WHAT'LL I DO, MIKE?
STRING HIM ALONG, I'LL SEND UP A COUPLE OF THE BOYS. THEY'LL KNOW WHAT TO DO!
SO YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SENT THOSE LOVELY FLOWERS! STEP IN, PLEASE!
YOU MEAN --ER-- NOW?
AND WHY HAVE YOU SUDDENLY BEEN SO DELIGHTFULLY NICE TO POOR, LITTLE ME?
BECAUSE I-- ER--UH--I-- I KIND OF LIKE YOU,
THAT MOMENT--THE DOOR BURSTS OPEN...
OKAY, YOU-- GET GOIN'!
YOU'RE COMING WITH US!
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?
IT MEANS THAT IF YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO GET AWAY WITH ANYTHING, YOU'VE GOT ANOTHER GUESS COMING!
CLARK IS FORCED TO ACCOMPANY THE STRONGARM MEN ON A RIDE....
YOU--YOU'D BETTER NOT HARM ME!
THAT'S UP TO THE BOSS!
YOUR FATE IS IN MIKE'S HANDS!


LATER-- CLARK IS LED INTO THE PRESENCE OF MIKE CAPUTO, BIG-TIME GAMBLER....
WHY HAVE YOU HAD YOUR MEN BRING ME HERE?
I WANT TO KNOW YOUR ANGLE. WHY DID YOU REALLY MAKE A PLAY FOR MABEL?
I--I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT...
I'VE NO TIME TO WASTE ON YOU!
CLARK IS LOCKED IN A ROOM....
WE'LL ATTEND TO HIM LATER! RIGHT NOW THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE I'VE GOT TO ATTEND TO. LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
WITHIN THE ROOM, CLARK QUICKLY REMOVES HIS OUTER GARMENTS, TRANSFORMING HIMSELF TO--SUPERMAN....
MIKE ISN'T THE ONLY ONE WHO WANTS INFORMATION. ONLY I AIM TO GET MINE NOW!
AS THE THUGS EMERGE FROM THE HOME, A COLORFULLY COSTUMED FIGURE CRASHES DOWN BEFORE THEM!
AWK!
SUPERMAN!
GET HIM, MEN!
BUT AS THE THUGS CHARGE SUPERMAN, HE MOVES IRRESISTIBLY FORWARD, THEY CAREEN OFF HIM AS THO STRIKING A SOLID WALL...
LEGGO OF ME!
NOT--YET--!
UP INTO THE SKY HURTLES SUPERMAN WITH HIS SHRIEKING CAPTIVE....
YEEEEE! I CAN'T STAND HEIGHTS!
THAT'S FINE! THEN MAYBE WE CAN SAVE A LOT OF TIME!
12
YOU KNOW WHAT I'M CAPABLE OF DOING, MIKE. DO I HAVE TO PUT YOU THRU THE WORKS OR--
OH-HHH--MY HEAD --THE DIZZINESS... I'LL TELL YOU ANYTHING!
WHY ARE YOU AND MABEL INTERESTED IN STAN DOBORAK?
WE--WE PLANNED TO GET THE KID UNDER OUR THUMB--GET HIM TO INVEST DOUGH IN AN APPARENTLY "LEGITIMATE" INVESTMENT--THEN TELL HIM THAT UNLESS HE THREW GAMES WE'D BET ON, WE'D CLAIM HE REALLY GOT HIS "INVESTMENT PROFITS" FOR THROWING GAMES.

MEANWHILE--
YOU'D BE A SMART LAD TO INVEST IN THESE SECURITIES, STAN.
I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THESE THINGS, BUT--I SUPPOSE YOU KNOW BEST.
ON THE CONTRARY, STAN--IF YOU PAY ANY ATTENTION TO HER, YOUR CAREER WILL BE RUINED!
WHAT--!
SUPERMAN! BUT I THOUGHT MABEL HAD MY BEST INTERESTS AT HEART.
DIS-ILLUSION HIM, MIKE!
MABEL AND I WERE TAKING YOU FOR A RIDE, KID, SO THAT...
YOU DOUBLE-CROSSING RAT!
AS MABEL FIRES, THE MAN OF STEEL LEAPS IN, RECEIVING THE BULLET UPON HIS IMPERVIOUS SKIN, AND SNATCHES AWAY HER WEAPON....
TCH! TCH! WHAT A TEMPER!
I'D ADVISE YOU TWO TO PACK UP AND LEAVE TOWN WITHIN AN HOUR. IF YOU'RE NOT GONE BY THAT TIME, YOU'LL HAVE ANOTHER VISIT FROM ME!
WE'LL SCRAM!
I'D ADVISE YOU TO STICK TO BALLPLAYING, STAN, AND REMAIN THE LIKEABLE CHAP YOU WERE!
I'M GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR OPENING MY EYES!
13
WEEKS LATER...AT THE BALL PARK....
STAN'S HIS OLD SELF AGAIN--AND IT LOOKS AS THO HE'LL WIN THE WORLD'S SERIES ALMOST SINGLE-HANDED, BUT, CLARK, HOW DID YOU GET MABEL TO RELEASE HER GRIP ON DOBORAK?
ONE LOOK AT ME AND SHE FORGOT STAN EXISTS. YOU UNDERESTIMATE MY ROMANTIC APPEAL, LOIS!
THE END


JULY
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A SUPERMAN PUBLICATION
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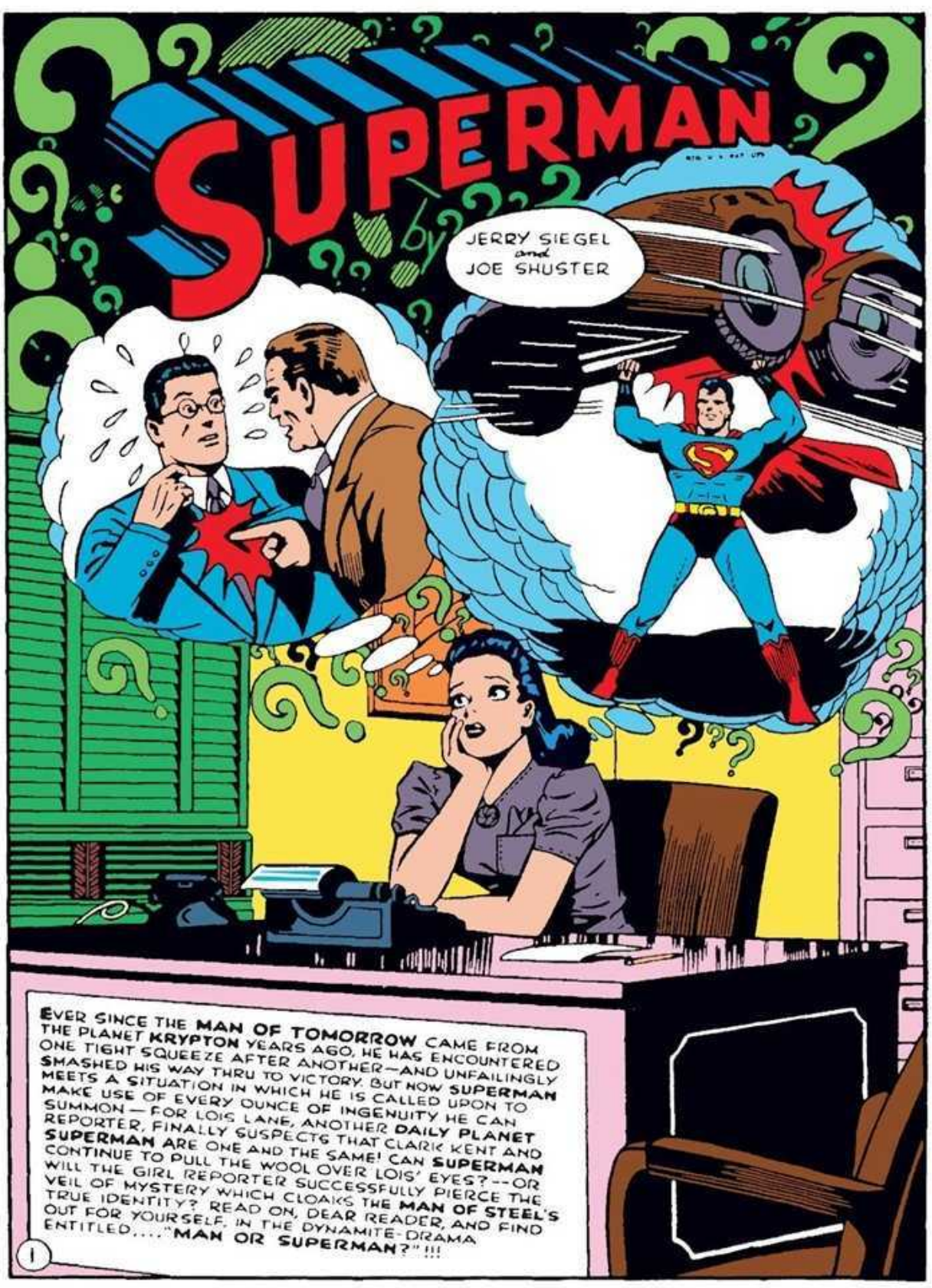
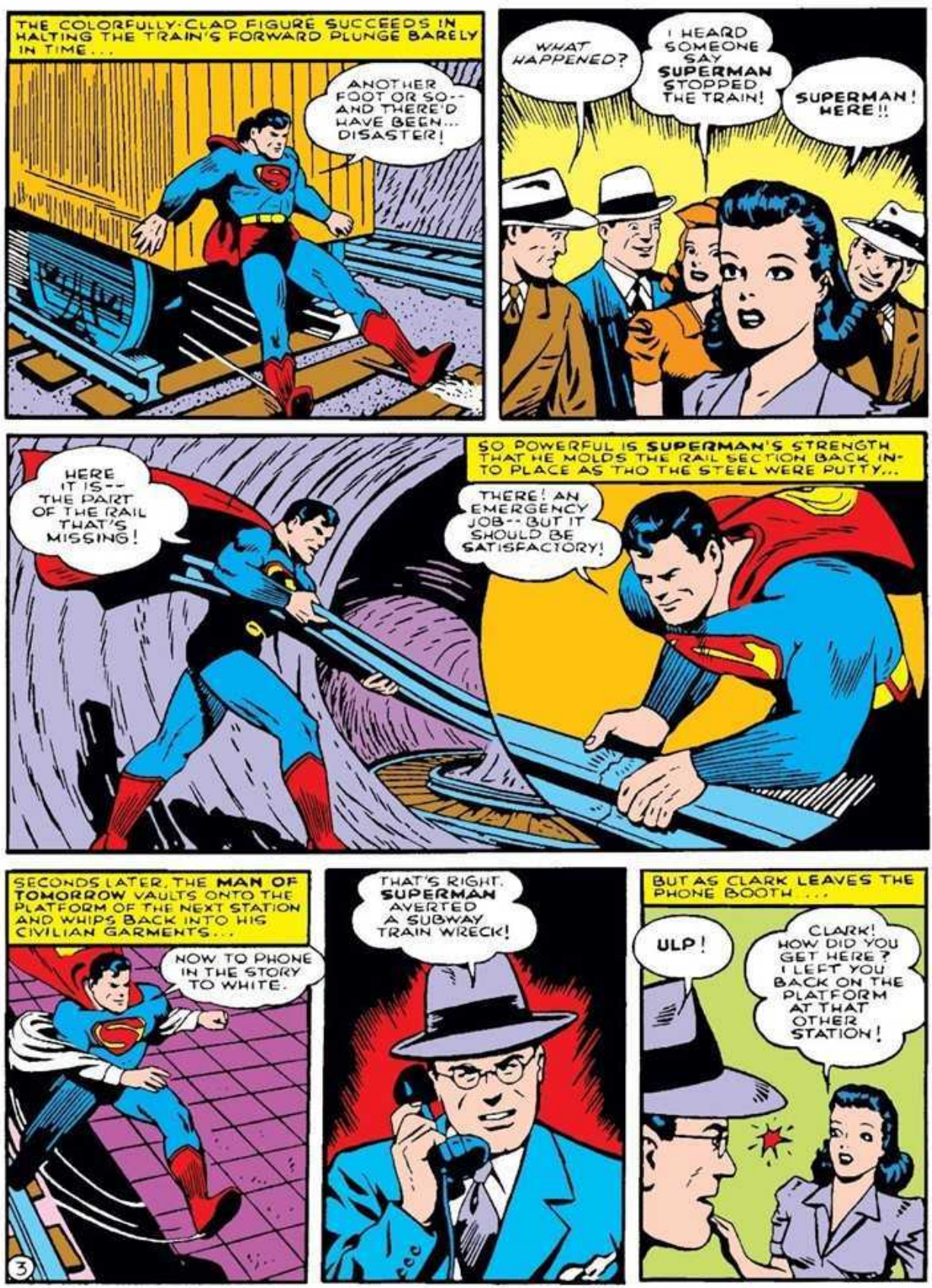
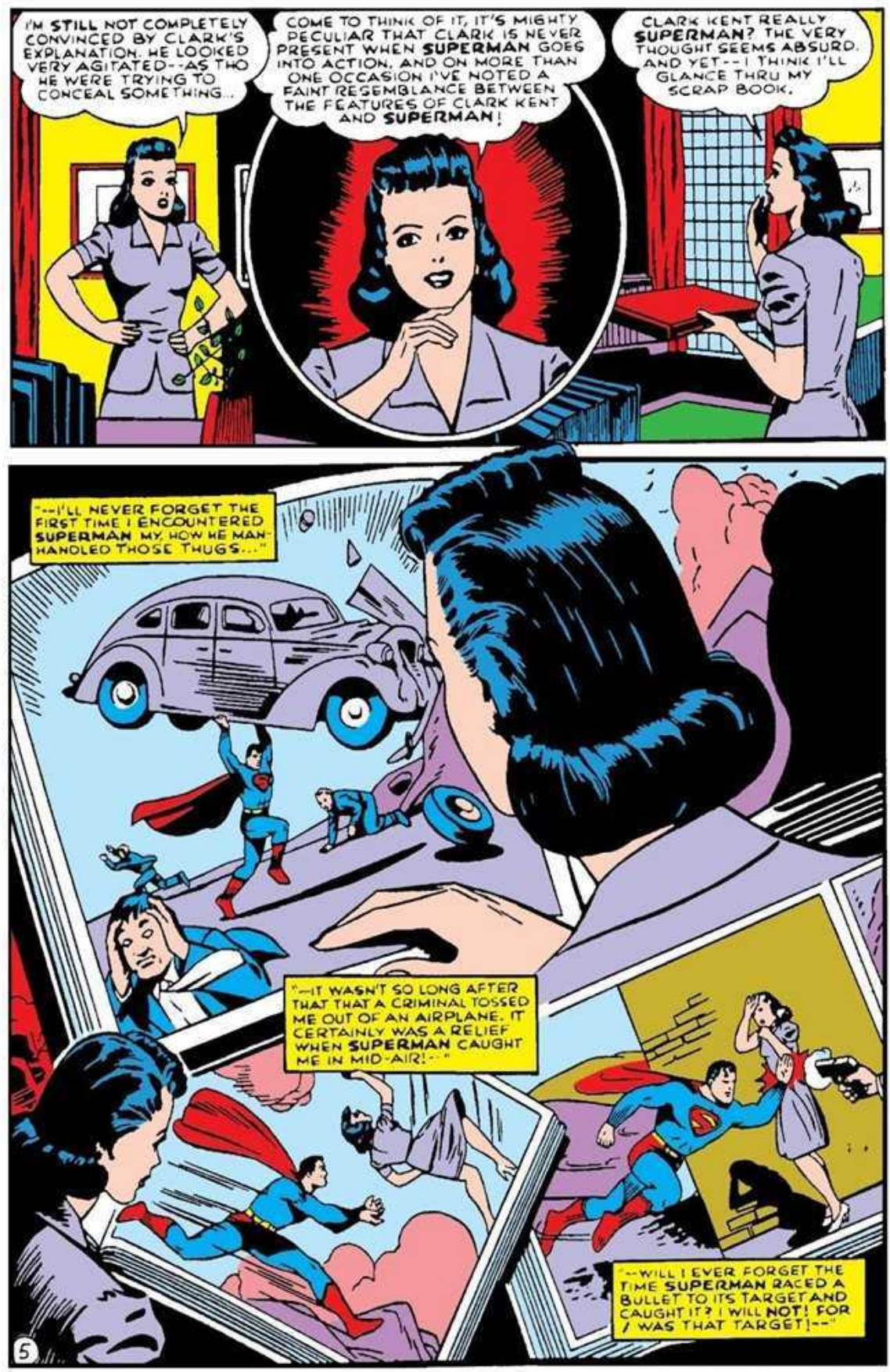
SUPERMAN
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
WORLD'S GREATEST ADVENTURE-STRIP CHARACTER!

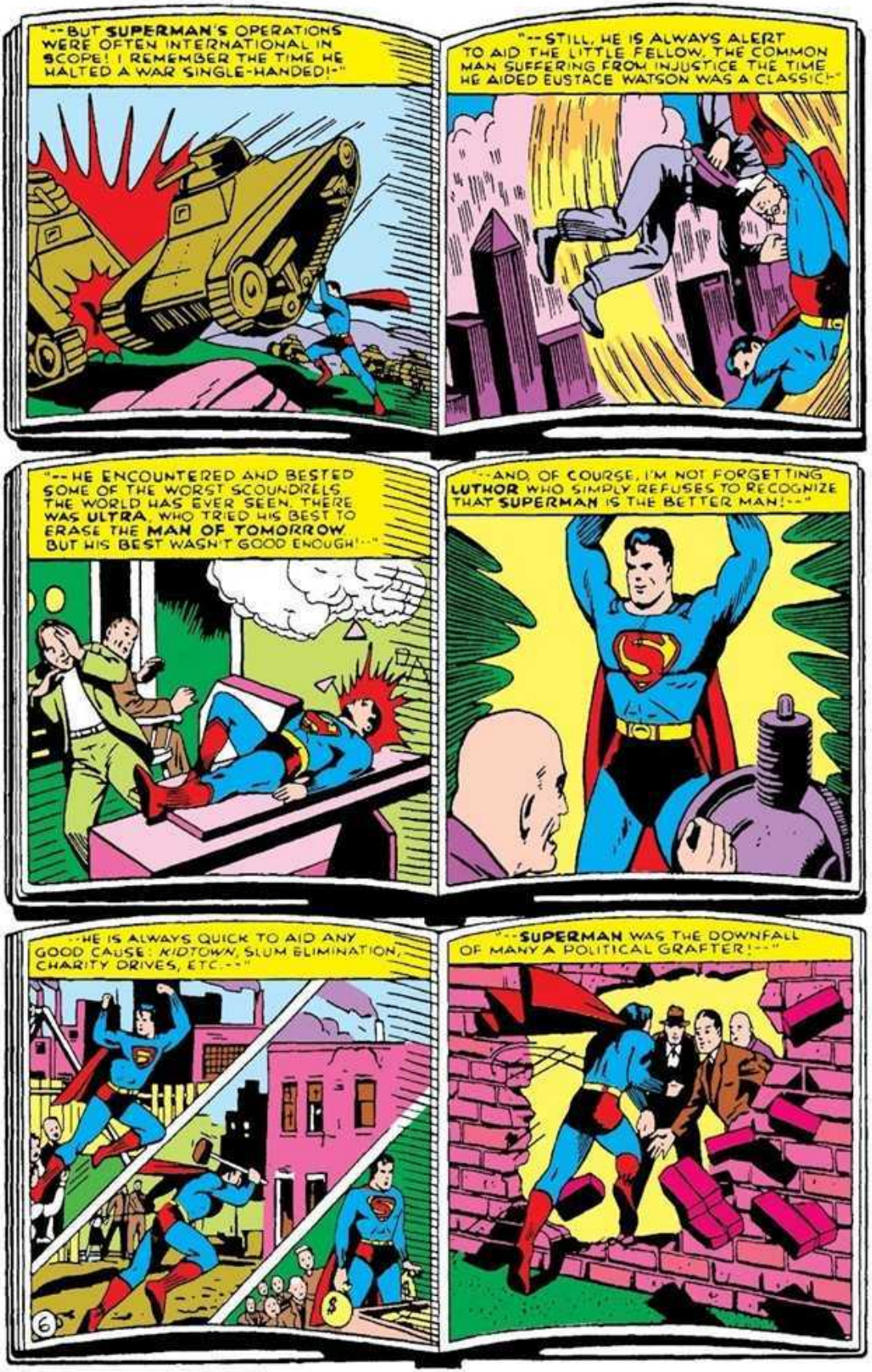

SUPERMAN
by
JERRY SIEGEL
and
JOE SHUSTER
EVER SINCE THE MAN OF TOMORROW CAME FROM THE PLANET KRYPTON YEARS AGO, HE HAS ENCOUNTERED ONE TIGHT SQUEEZE AFTER ANOTHER—AND UNFAILINGLY SMASHED HIS WAY THRU TO VICTORY. BUT NOW SUPERMAN MEETS A SITUATION IN WHICH HE IS CALLED UPON TO MAKE USE OF EVERY OUNCE OF INGENUITY HE CAN SUMMON—FOR LOIS LANE, ANOTHER DAILY PLANET REPORTER, FINALLY SUSPECTS THAT CLARK KENT AND SUPERMAN ARE ONE AND THE SAME! CAN SUPERMAN CONTINUE TO PULL THE WOOL OVER LOIS' EYES?--OR WILL THE GIRL REPORTER SUCCESSFULLY PIERCE THE VEIL OF MYSTERY WHICH CLOAKS THE MAN OF STEEL'S TRUE IDENTITY? READ ON, DEAR READER, AND FIND OUT FOR YOURSELF, IN THE DYNAMITE-DRAMA ENTITLED...."MAN OR SUPERMAN?"!!!
1

SORRY! CAN'T DRIVE YOU HOME AS USUAL TODAY, LOIS--BUT I'M TAKING THE TIRE-RATIONING CRISIS SERIOUSLY.
EVERY-ONE SHOULD--IT'S THE PATRIOTIC THING TO DO!
BUT AS CLARK STRUGGLES TOWARD THE TRAIN WITH LOIS, HIS X-RAY VISION BRINGS TO HIM A STARTLING SCENE...
HURRY, CLARK--BEFORE THE DOOR CLOSES!
(PUFF!) RIGHT WITH YOU!
("-WHAT'S THAT?-")
WHAT CLARK'S AMAZING VISION REVEALS TO HIM... A SECTION OF THE SUBWAY TRACK--MISSING...!
AS LOIS IS CROWDED INTO THE PACKED CAR, THE DOOR SLIDES SHUT AND SHE DISCOVERS...
CLARK DIDN'T MAKE IT! HE'S STILL ON THE PLATFORM!
BUT AT THAT MOMENT THE DAILY PLANET REPORTER IS STREAKING THRU THE MOB ON THE SUBWAY PLATFORM AT SO GREAT A SPEED THAT NO ONE CAN OBSERVE HIM--AND AS HE RACES, HE SWITCHES TO HIS WORLD-FAMOUS ACTION-COSTUME...
IMPOLITE OF ME TO DASH AWAY FROM LOIS LIKE THIS--BUT SUPERMAN HAS WORK TO DO!
DOWN ONTO THE TRACKS LEAPS THE MAN OF TOMORROW, AND AS THE SUBWAY TRAIN BEGINS TO MOVE HE FLASHES AHEAD OF IT AT FULL SPEED...
ALMOST AT THE SPOT WHERE THE RAIL IS MISSING--NO ROOM HERE FOR HALF-MEASURES!
BAY
WHIRLING, SUPERMAN PITS HIS STRENGTH AGAINST THE SPEEDING SUBWAY TRAIN...
NOT ANOTHER INCH DO I BUDGE!!
2


THE COLORFULLY-CLAD FIGURE SUCCEEDS IN HALTING THE TRAIN'S FORWARD PLUNGE BARELY IN TIME...
ANOTHER FOOT OR SO-- AND THERE'D HAVE BEEN... DISASTER!
WHAT HAPPENED?
I HEARD SOMEONE SAY SUPERMAN STOPPED THE TRAIN!
SUPERMAN! HERE!!
HERE IT IS-- THE PART OF THE RAIL THAT'S MISSING!
SO POWERFUL IS SUPERMAN'S STRENGTH THAT HE MOLDS THE RAIL SECTION BACK INTO PLACE AS THO THE STEEL WERE PUTTY...
THERE! AN EMERGENCY JOB-- BUT IT SHOULD BE SATISFACTORY!
SECONDS LATER, THE MAN OF TOMORROW VAULTS ONTO THE PLATFORM OF THE NEXT STATION AND WHIPS BACK INTO HIS CIVILIAN GARMENTS...
NOW TO PHONE IN THE STORY TO WHITE.
THAT'S RIGHT. SUPERMAN AVERTED A SUBWAY TRAIN WRECK!
BUT AS CLARK LEAVES THE PHONE BOOTH ...
ULP!
CLARK! HOW DID YOU GET HERE? I LEFT YOU BACK ON THE PLATFORM AT THAT OTHER STATION!
3

("-IT'S GOING TO TAKE SOME FAST THINKING TO GET OUT OF THIS SPOT! LOIS KNOWS I WAS LEFT BEHIND ON THAT OTHER SUBWAY PLATFORM. WHAT SORT OF FAIRLY LOGICAL EXPLANATION CAN I OFFER HER WITHOUT REVEALING MY SUPERMAN IDENTITY?-")
WELL--YOU SEE--I--I--ER...I TOOK AN EXPRESS TRAIN AND GOT HERE FIRST! YES, THAT'S IT!
YOU DID, EH? WELL, LET ME AT THAT TELEPHONE! I'VE A GREAT YARN TO TELEPHONE IN. SUPERMAN JUST HALTED A SUBWAY WRECK!
BUT, LOIS...
QUIET! CAN'T YOU SEE I'M TRYING TO TALK INTO THE TELEPHONE!
WHAT'S THAT? YOU SAY--CLARK ALREADY REPORTED THE STORY??!
HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO TELEPHONE THAT STORY IN FIRST? HOW DID YOU EVER KNOW MY TRAIN WAS INVOLVED IN AN ENCOUNTER WITH SUPERMAN!
I--I--ER...
("-NOW I'M IN AN EVEN WORSE SPOT!-")
UH—UH—...NEWS LIKE THAT TRAVELS FAST. IF I WERE TO LET YOU IN ON ALL MY METHODS, YOU'D FOREVER BE SCOOPING ME. HEH! HEH! ("-I'M AFRAID THAT FELL KINDA FLAT.-")
THERE'S SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS HERE.
LATER...OUTSIDE LOIS' APARTMENT...
COME TO THINK OF IT, SUPERMAN HIMSELF COULDN'T HAVE ACTED ANY FASTER!
YOU'RE JUST MAKING IT APPEAR MORE MYSTERIOUS THAN IT REALLY WAS.
WHEW! THAT WAS THE CLOSEST I'VE EVER COME TO HAVING MY IDENTITY DISCOVERED. THANK GOODNESS LOIS WILL FORGET THE INCIDENT!
BUT WILL LOIS FORGET?
4


I'M STILL NOT COMPLETELY CONVINCED BY CLARK'S EXPLANATION. HE LOOKED VERY AGITATED--AS THO HE WERE TRYING TO CONCEAL SOMETHING...
COME TO THINK OF IT, IT'S MIGHTY PECULIAR THAT CLARK IS NEVER PRESENT WHEN SUPERMAN GOES INTO ACTION, AND ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION I'VE NOTED A FAINT RESEMBLANCE BETWEEN THE FEATURES OF CLARK KENT AND SUPERMAN!
CLARK KENT REALLY SUPERMAN? THE VERY THOUGHT SEEMS ABSURD. AND YET--I THINK I'LL GLANCE THRU MY SCRAP BOOK.
"--I'LL NEVER FORGET THE FIRST TIME I ENCOUNTERED SUPERMAN MY, HOW HE MAN-HANDLED THOSE THUGS..."
"--IT WASN'T SO LONG AFTER THAT THAT A CRIMINAL TOSSED ME OUT OF AN AIRPLANE. IT CERTAINLY WAS A RELIEF WHEN SUPERMAN CAUGHT ME IN MID-AIR!--"
"--WILL I EVER FORGET THE TIME SUPERMAN RACED A BULLET TO ITS TARGET AND CAUGHT IT? I WILL NOT! FOR I WAS THAT TARGET!--"
5

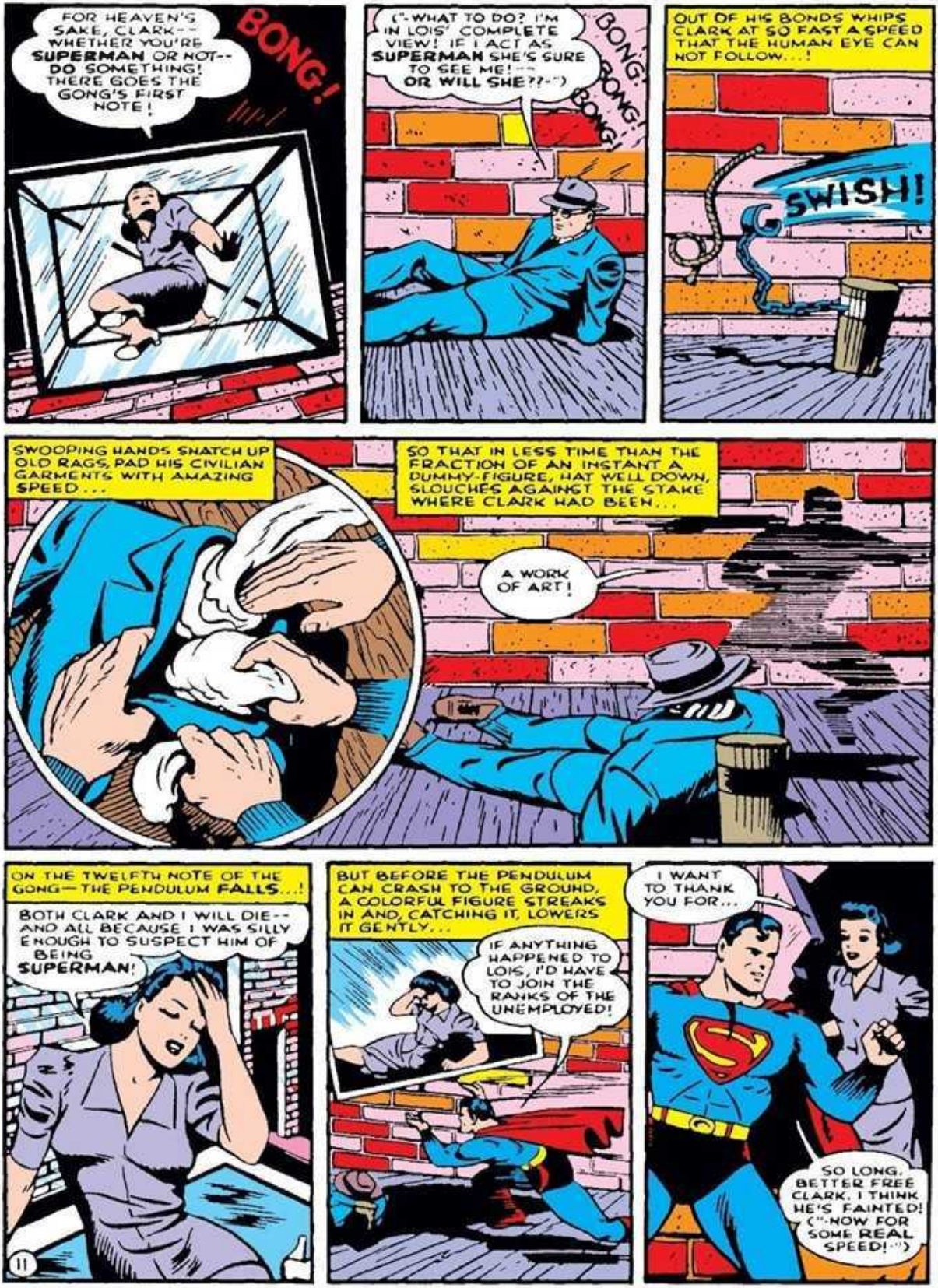

"--BUT SUPERMAN'S OPERATIONS WERE OFTEN INTERNATIONAL IN SCOPE! I REMEMBER THE TIME HE HALTED A WAR SINGLE-HANDED!-"
"--STILL, HE IS ALWAYS ALERT TO AID THE LITTLE FELLOW. THE COMMON MAN SUFFERING FROM INJUSTICE THE TIME HE AIDED EUSTACE WATSON WAS A CLASSIC!-"
"--HE ENCOUNTERED AND BESTED SOME OF THE WORST SCOUNDRELS THE WORLD HAS EVER SEEN. THERE WAS ULTRA, WHO TRIED HIS BEST TO ERASE THE MAN OF TOMORROW. BUT HIS BEST WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH!--"
"--AND, OF COURSE, I'M NOT FORGETTING LUTHOR WHO SIMPLY REFUSES TO RECOGNIZE THAT SUPERMAN IS THE BETTER MAN!--"
"--HE IS ALWAYS QUICK TO AID ANY GOOD CAUSE: KIDTOWN, SLUM ELIMINATION, CHARITY DRIVES, ETC.--"
$
"--SUPERMAN WAS THE DOWNFALL OF MANY A POLITICAL GRAFTER!--"
6

"--AMERICAN CRUSADER, CRIME'S GREATEST FOE, ENEMY OF ALL INJUSTICE, THE MOST POWERFUL FORCE FOR GOOD THE WORLD HAS EVER SEEN-- THAT'S SUPERMAN!"
7

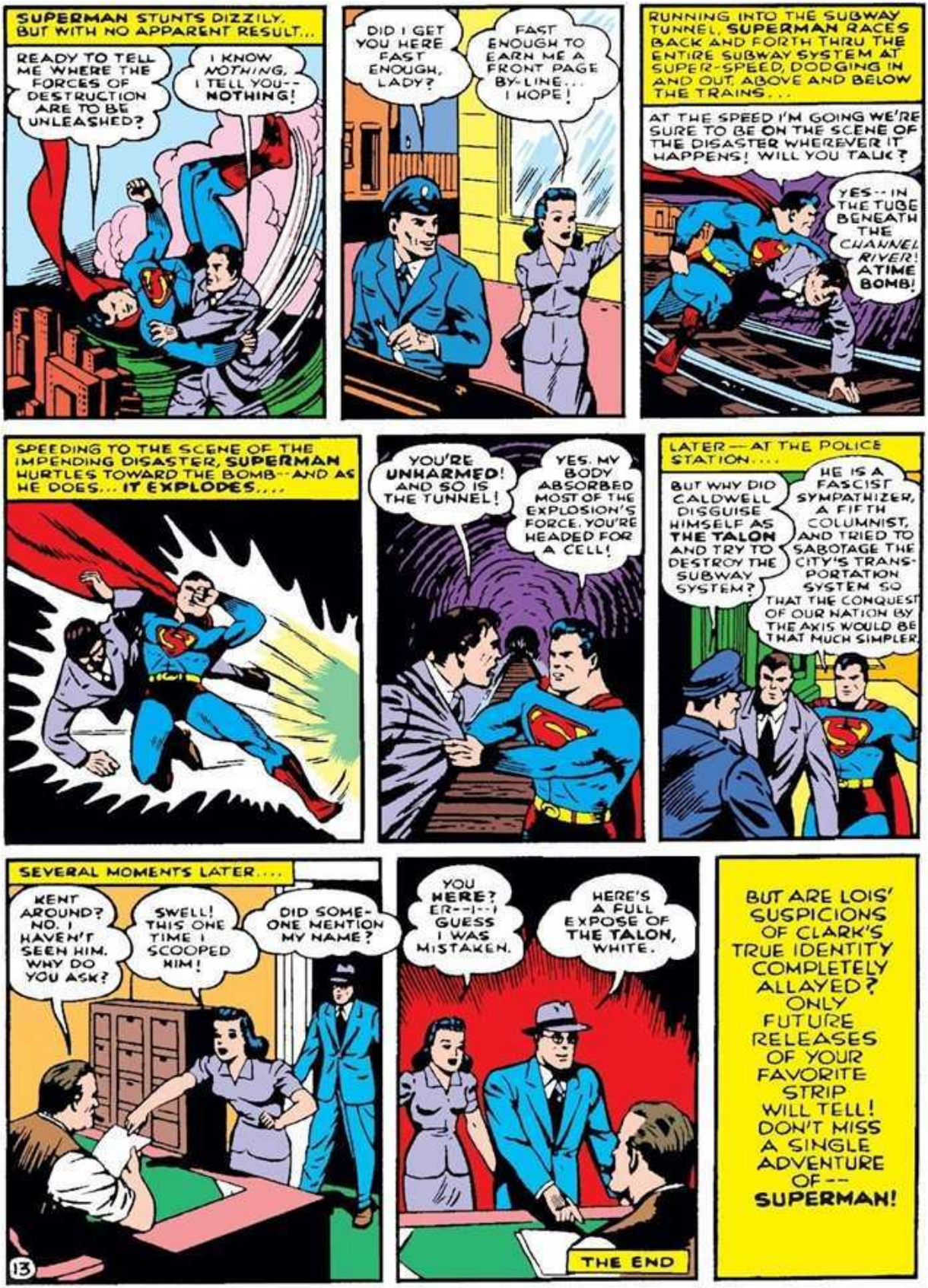
HOW COULD I HAVE IMAGINED THAT MEEK, SHRINKING CLARK KENT COULD BE DYNAMIC SUPERMAN? A SILLY THOUGHT AND THE SOONER I FORGET IT, THE BETTER!
AFTER LOIS RETIRES THAT EVENING, CLARK FINDS THAT A PERSISTENT THOUGHT PREVENTS SLEEP. HE CHANGES TO SUPERMAN.
THAT SUBWAY RAIL WASN'T MISPLACED BY ACCIDENT! THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG GOING ON IN THE LABYRINTHS OF THE SUBWAY SYSTEM AND I'M GOING TO TRACK IT DOWN!
SHORTLY AFTERWARD, AS THE MAN OF TOMORROW RACES ALONG A SUBWAY TUNNEL, HIS SUPER-SENSITIVE HEARING DETECTS . . .
MASSIVE DYNAMOS-!
AVAILING HIMSELF OF HIS X-RAY VISION AND SUPER-HEARING, HE DETECTS A STARTLING SIGHT IN A NEARBY BUILDING . . .
THE WIRES HAVE BEEN CONNECTED TO THE SUBWAY TRACKS . . . AFTER I FLING THIS SWITCH, THE TREMENDOUS ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY THESE DYNAMOS WILL SURGE INTO THE TRACKS . THE PASSENGERS ABOARD TRAINS PASSING THIS SECTION, WILL BE ELECTROCUTED . . . !
WE KNOW ALL THAT! THROW THE SWITCH!
THE TALON DOESN'T LIKE DELAYS!
THRU THE EARTH BURROWS THE MAN OF TOMORROW AT DESPERATE SPEED . . . !
GOT TO PREVENT A MASS EXECUTION!
SUPERMAN!
AND NOT TOO LATE, I HOPE!
THROW THE SWITCH!
OUT OF MY WAY!
YOU'RE TOO LATE!!
THE SUBWAY TRACKS CRACKLE WITH ELECTRICAL ENERGY--AND A SHORT DISTANCE OFF A TRAIN HURTLES TOWARD THE WAITING DOOM . . . . . !!
8

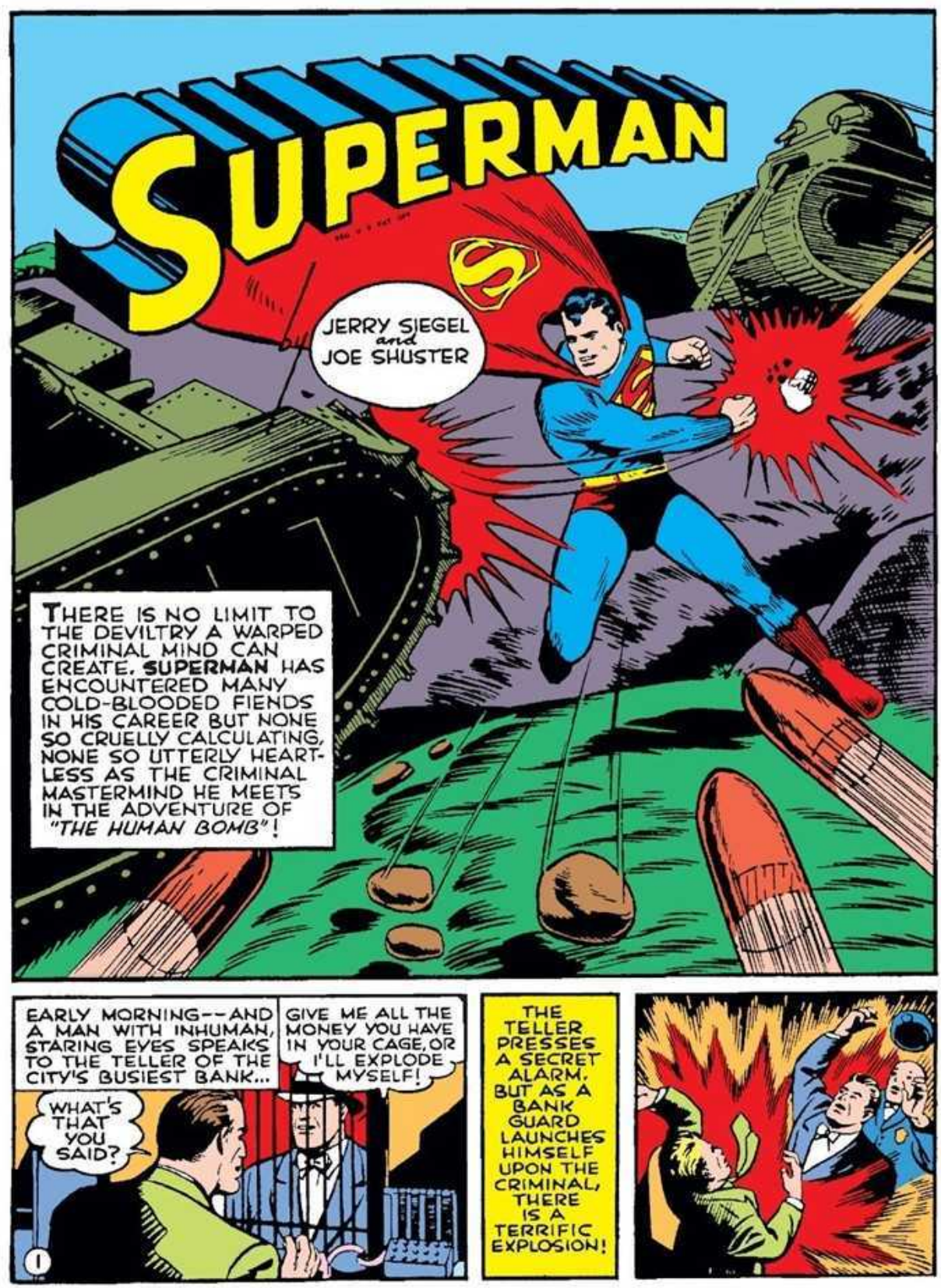
SMASHING INTO THE DYNAMOS, SUPERMAN RIPS THEM APART WITH HIS BARE HANDS--AND AS HE DOES, A TERRIFIC BARRAGE OF ELECTRICAL FORCE IS UNLEASHED IN THE ROOM...
THE THREAT'S BANISHED--BUT THE TALON'S HIRELINGS WERE SLAIN BY THEIR OWN ELECTRICAL APPARATUS! ONLY MY SUPER-PHYSIQUE SAVED ME!
EARLY MORNING--LOIS IS ROUSED BY THE SHOUTING OF NEWSBOYS...
WHA--?
EXTRA! DAILY PLANET EXTRA! SUPERMAN SMASHES SABOTEURS!!
DRESSING HASTILY, LOIS PURCHASES A COPY...
ANOTHER SCOOP BY CLARK KENT! THAT SETTLES IT! I'M GOING TO FIND OUT ONCE AND FOR ALL IF CLARK IS SUPERMAN OR NOT!
LATER...
THIS ARTICLE OF MINE STATES THAT I KNOW ALL ABOUT THE TALON AND HIS WORKING METHODS. IF ANYTHING WILL MAKE THE TALON BETRAY HIS HAND, THIS OUGHT TO!
BUT IT'S A DANGEROUS TRICK, LOIS!
DON'T LET HER DO IT!
BUT CLARK'S PROTESTS ARE OF NO AVAIL... WHIRLING PRESSES PRINT LOIS' ARTICLE IN GREAT QUANTITIES—THE NEWSPAPER'S LATEST EDITION IS DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT THE CITY....
AND IN THE TALON'S HIDEAWAY...
GET--THAT--GIRL!!
9

BUT, LOIS--WHY YOU SHOULD DELIBERATELY EXPOSE YOURSELF TO DANGER IS SOMETHING I CAN'T UNDERSTAND!
THEN I'LL MAKE MYSELF PERFECTLY CLEAR, YOU SEE, CLARK, I HAVE MORE THAN A SLIGHT SUSPICION THAT YOU MAY BE SUPERMAN! ALL I'VE GOT TO DO IS GET INTO TROUBLE, AND IF YOU EXPOSE YOURSELF AS SUPERMAN I'VE GOT YOU WHERE I WANT YOU!
("-I'VE GOT TO BLUFF THIS THRU!-") THAT'S PERFECTLY RIDICULOUS!
THINK SO? THEN I DARE YOU TO ACCOMPANY ME TO THE HEADQUARTERS OF METROPOLIS SUBWAY, INC. I WANT TO INTERVIEW ITS PRESIDENT AND KEEP MY EYES ON YOU!
BUT SOON AFTER...
WE'RE GOING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION!
I--I'M AFRAID THERE'S NOT MUCH WE CAN DO ABOUT IT!
AND STILL LATER--THE TWO REPORTERS ARE FORCED INTO AN APPARENTLY EMPTY BUILDING AND INTO THE PRESENCE OF...
THE TALON!
FOR A GIRL WHO IS IN SERIOUS DANGER, YOU APPEAR SINGULARLY UNCONCERNED.
WHY SHOULD I WORRY WHEN SUPERMAN HAS MADE IT HIS FULL-TIME ACTIVITY TO LOOK AFTER HELPLESS ME?
I ASSURE YOU THAT YOU WON'T FIND YOUR PRESENT PLIGHT AMUSING. WHAT SECRET INFORMATION DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?
ABSOLUTELY NONE. I WROTE THAT ARTICLE SO THAT I'D MEET YOU FACE-TO-FACE--AND NOW THAT WE'VE MET I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT YOU'RE JUST AS UGLY AS I EXPECTED YOU'D BE!
THE TALON'S HENCHMEN FORCE LOIS INTO THE PENDULUM OF A HUGE CLOCK... AND CLARK IS BOUND TO A STAKE BENEATH THE SWINGING PENDULUM...
IN A FEW MINUTES IT WILL BE TWELVE O'CLOCK NOON. ON THE GONG'S TWELFTH STROKE, THE PENDULUM WILL FALL UPON KENT--AND YOU'LL BOTH BE DESTROYED!
AND NOW MY MEN AND I TAKE OUR DEPARTURE. YOU MAY CONSOLE YOURSELVES WITH THE THOUGHT THAT THE SUBWAY SYSTEM WILL BE DESTROYED SHORTLY AFTER YOU TWO MEET YOUR FATE!
10


FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, CLARK--WHETHER YOU'RE SUPERMAN OR NOT--DO SOMETHING! THERE GOES THE GONG'S FIRST NOTE!
BONG!
("-WHAT TO DO? I'M IN LOIS' COMPLETE VIEW! IF I ACT AS SUPERMAN SHE'S SURE TO SEE ME!--OR WILL SHE??-")
BONG!
BONG!
OUT OF HIS BONDS WHIPS CLARK AT SO FAST A SPEED THAT THE HUMAN EYE CAN NOT FOLLOW...!
SWISH!
SWOOPING HANDS SNATCH UP OLD RAGS, PAD HIS CIVILIAN GARMENTS WITH AMAZING SPEED...
SO THAT IN LESS TIME THAN THE FRACTION OF AN INSTANT A DUMMY-FIGURE, HAT WELL DOWN, SLOUCHES AGAINST THE STAKE WHERE CLARK HAD BEEN...
A WORK OF ART!
ON THE TWELFTH NOTE OF THE GONG—THE PENDULUM FALLS...!
BOTH CLARK AND I WILL DIE--AND ALL BECAUSE I WAS SILLY ENOUGH TO SUSPECT HIM OF BEING SUPERMAN!
BUT BEFORE THE PENDULUM CAN CRASH TO THE GROUND, A COLORFUL FIGURE STREAKS IN AND, CATCHING IT, LOWERS IT GENTLY...
IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO LOIS, I'D HAVE TO JOIN THE RANKS OF THE UNEMPLOYED!
I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR...
SO LONG. BETTER FREE CLARK. I THINK HE'S FAINTED! ("-NOW FOR SOME REAL SPEED!-")
11

WHILE LOIS TURNS TOWARD THE STAKE, SUPERMAN WHIPS PAST HER AT SUPER-SPEED...
("-GOT TO MAKE IT BEFORE SHE COMPLETELY TURNS!-")
SWISH!
EMPTYING THE RAGS, HE DONS HIS OUTER GARMENTS AND ADJUSTS THE ROPES IN PLACE...
("-SHE'S ALMOST GOT HER EYES ON ME!-")
COME TO, CLARK! SUPERMAN SAVED US! WE'VE GOT TO GET TO THE SUBWAY SYSTEM HEADQUARTERS AND WARN THEM OF THE TALON'S THREAT!
I--I WANT TO KEEP AS FAR AWAY FROM THE TALON AS I CAN!
LATER... IN THE PRIVATE OFFICE OF ALBERT CALDWELL, PRESIDENT OF METROPOLIS SUBWAY, INC....
BUT I INSIST IT'S TRUE! THE TALON IS GOING TO DESTROY YOUR SUBWAY!
MELO-DRAMATIC NONSENSE!
("-MY X-RAY EYESIGHT... I SEE SOMETHING INTERESTING!") NO SENSE WASTING TIME HERE, LOIS. I'M GOING BACK TO THE PLANET TO TURN IN WHAT WE'VE LEARNED!
BUT ONCE HE IS OUTSIDE THE OFFICE, CLARK CHANGES TO SUPERMAN AND RACES BACK IN....
SUPERMAN! STRANGE HOW YOU SHOWED UP SO SOON AFTER CLARK'S DEPARTURE!
WHAT DOES THIS INTERRUPTION MEAN?
I WAS WONDERING, CALDWELL, IF YOU DABBLE IN AMATEUR THEATRICALS?
OF COURSE NOT!
THEN THERE'S ONLY ONE OTHER EXPLANATION FOR THE TRACES OF YELLOW PIGMENT AND GREASE PAINT I CAN STILL DETECT ON YOUR SKIN, TALON!
MR. CALDWELL--THE TALON!
HE'S MAD!
I'M BETTING HE'S THE BIRD WE'RE AFTER!
OBOY! IT'S OFF FOR THE DAILY PLANET FOR ME!
IF I'M FAST ENOUGH I MAY BE ABLE TO SCOOP CLARK!
12


SUPERMAN STUNTS DIZZILY, BUT WITH NO APPARENT RESULT...
READY TO TELL ME WHERE THE FORCES OF DESTRUCTION ARE TO BE UNLEASHED?
I KNOW NOTHING, I TELL YOU-- NOTHING!
DID I GET YOU HERE FAST ENOUGH, LADY?
FAST ENOUGH TO EARN ME A FRONT PAGE BY-LINE... I HOPE!
RUNNING INTO THE SUBWAY TUNNEL, SUPERMAN RACES BACK AND FORTH THRU THE ENTIRE SUBWAY SYSTEM AT SUPER-SPEED, DODGING IN AND OUT, ABOVE AND BELOW THE TRAINS...
AT THE SPEED I'M GOING WE'RE SURE TO BE ON THE SCENE OF THE DISASTER WHEREVER IT HAPPENS! WILL YOU TALK?
YES--IN THE TUBE BENEATH THE CHANNEL RIVER! A TIME BOMB!
SPEEDING TO THE SCENE OF THE IMPENDING DISASTER, SUPERMAN HURTLES TOWARD THE BOMB--AND AS HE DOES... IT EXPLODES....
YOU'RE UNHARMED! AND SO IS THE TUNNEL!
YES. MY BODY ABSORBED MOST OF THE EXPLOSION'S FORCE. YOU'RE HEADED FOR A CELL!
LATER--AT THE POLICE STATION....
BUT WHY DID CALDWELL DISGUISE HIMSELF AS THE TALON AND TRY TO DESTROY THE SUBWAY SYSTEM?
HE IS A FASCIST SYMPATHIZER, A FIFTH COLUMNIST, AND TRIED TO SABOTAGE THE CITY'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM SO THAT THE CONQUEST OF OUR NATION BY THE AXIS WOULD BE THAT MUCH SIMPLER
SEVERAL MOMENTS LATER....
KENT AROUND? NO. I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM. WHY DO YOU ASK?
SWELL! THIS ONE TIME I SCOOPED HIM!
DID SOMEONE MENTION MY NAME?
YOU HERE? ER--I--I GUESS I WAS MISTAKEN.
HERE'S A FULL EXPOSE OF THE TALON, WHITE.
THE END
BUT ARE LOIS' SUSPICIONS OF CLARK'S TRUE IDENTITY COMPLETELY ALLAYED? ONLY FUTURE RELEASES OF YOUR FAVORITE STRIP WILL TELL! DON'T MISS A SINGLE ADVENTURE OF-- SUPERMAN!
13


SUPERMAN
JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
THERE IS NO LIMIT TO THE DEVILTRY A WARPED CRIMINAL MIND CAN CREATE. SUPERMAN HAS ENCOUNTERED MANY COLD-BLOODED FIENDS IN HIS CAREER BUT NONE SO CRUELLY CALCULATING, NONE SO UTTERLY HEARTLESS AS THE CRIMINAL MASTERMIND HE MEETS IN THE ADVENTURE OF "THE HUMAN BOMB"!
EARLY MORNING--AND A MAN WITH INHUMAN, STARING EYES SPEAKS TO THE TELLER OF THE CITY'S BUSIEST BANK...
GIVE ME ALL THE MONEY YOU HAVE IN YOUR CAGE, OR I'LL EXPLODE MYSELF!
WHAT'S THAT YOU SAID?
1
THE TELLER PRESSES A SECRET ALARM. BUT AS A BANK GUARD LAUNCHES HIMSELF UPON THE CRIMINAL, THERE IS A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION!

DAILY
BANDIT SLAYS HIMSELF IN BANK EXPLOSION
EDITORIAL OFFICE OF THE DAILY PLANET....
CAN YOU IMAGINE A ROBBER DELIBERATELY DESTROYING HIMSELF WHEN HIS HOLD-UP ATTEMPT IS BALKED?
AND THAT HE SHOULD CARRY A POWERFUL EXPLOSIVE ON HIS PERSON AS A THREAT!
SO FANTASTIC IN FACT, THAT IF I HADN'T HAD DEFINITE PROOF THE STORY WAS TRUE I'D HAVE REFUSED TO PRINT IT!
A MAN TO SEE YOU, SIR, BUT HE REFUSES TO GIVE HIS NAME.
SHOW HIM IN! I'M JUST IN THE RIGHT MOOD TO BAWL OUT A CRANK!
THE MOST OUTSTANDING FEATURE ABOUT PERRY WHITE'S CALLER ARE HIS STRANGE, STARING EYES...
YOU WANTED TO SEE ME?
YES. IT'S ABOUT THAT EXPLOSION AT THE BANK.
YOU GOT THE EXPLANATION ALL FIGURED OUT, EH?--I'M NOT INTERESTED IN YOUR GUESSES.
BUT I'M NOT GUESSING--BECAUSE--
I, TOO, AM A HUMAN BOMB!
WHA--! (G-GULP!) W-WHY HAVE YOU COME HERE?
I WANT TO BE INTERVIEWED. AND YOU'D BETTER GRANT MY REQUEST OR I HAVE BUT TO PRESS THIS BUTTON... AND WE'LL BOTH DIE! THAT WOULD BE REGRETTABLE.
SA-AAY! THIS IS A BREAK! WHAT A STORY! YOU'D LIKE AN INTERVIEW, EH? I KNOW JUST THE REPORTER TO HANDLE THE ASSIGNMENT!
YES, MR. WHITE?
SEND IN CLARK KENT!
2

ULP!
OUR FRIEND, HERE, THREATENS TO SPATTER US IN ALL DIRECTIONS UNLESS WE OBLIGE HIM WITH AN INTERVIEW. GET STARTED!
AND DON'T TRY ANYTHING!
I AM ONE OF "THE HUMAN BOMBS." IT IS OUR INTENTION TO ROB WHEREVER WE PLEASE. WE HAVE NO FEAR OF DEATH. SHOULD ANYONE EVER ATTEMPT TO STOP US, WE WILL COMMIT SUICIDE.... AND INNOCENT BYSTANDERS WILL ALSO DIE IN THE RESULTING EXPLOSION.
IS-- IS THAT ALL?
YES. EXCEPT THAT NEITHER OF YOU ARE TO FOLLOW ME WHEN I LEAVE OR YOU'LL DIE!
WE UNDERSTAND.
AS THE HUMAN BOMB BACKS OUT OF THE OFFICE, WHITE LEAPS FOR HIS TELEPHONE WITH CLARK'S COPY....
GET ME THE PRESS ROOM!
I--I NEED AN ASPIRIN!
BUT, ONCE HE IS ALONE, THE MEEK REPORTER DROPS HIS FRIGHTENED ATTITUDE AND REMOVES HIS OUTER GARMENTS....
A BREAK FOR--
SUPERMAN!
RACING OUT OF THE PLANET BUILDING, THE HUMAN BOMB HURRIES TOWARD A PARKED AUTO...
A CLEAN GETAWAY!
BUT HIS MOVEMENTS ARE OBSERVED BY A COSTUMED FIGURE ATOP THE BUILDING...
CLEAN GETAWAY? I THINK NOT!
3

A GREAT LEAP LAUNCHES THE MAN OF STEEL TOWARD THE DISTANT FIGURE....
HERE I GO!
HE CRASHES TO THE GROUND, UNINJURED BY THE GREAT FALL BECAUSE OF HIS TREMENDOUSLY POWERFUL MUSCLES....
SUPERMAN!
RIGHT!
OUT OF MY WAY, OR--
THREATS MERELY AMUSE ME!
STREAKING IN SO QUICKLY THE EYE CAN SCARCELY FOLLOW, SUPERMAN RIPS THE BOMB-APPARATUS OFF HIS FOE....
I'LL TAKE THAT!
THE BOMB APPARATUS! --GONE!
AS THE MAN TRIES TO FLEE...
IT'S NOT POLITE TO RUN OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF A CONVERSATION!
AS A POLICE OFFICER DASHES UP....
WHAT'S THE DISTURBANCE?
YOU DON'T KNOW IT, OFFICER, BUT YOU'RE ABOUT TO STUMBLE ON A PROMOTION, YOU'VE JUST CAPTURED A MEMBER OF THE HUMAN BOMB GANG!
4

RETURNING TO AN EMPTY OFFICE IN THE DAILY PLANET BUILDING, SUPERMAN DONS HIS CIVILIAN GARMENTS...ONCE AGAIN TRANSFORMING HIMSELF TO THE DOCILE REPORTER...
NOT A BAD PIECE OF WORK!
BUT AS CLARK STEPS OUT OF THE ROOM, HE ENCOUNTERS—LOIS!
("-I'VE GOT TO THINK FAST!-")
CLARK! WHAT WERE YOU DOING IN THAT EMPTY ROOM?
ME? I-- I HAPPENED TO WALK IN BY MISTAKE.
("-DOES SHE BELIEVE ME?-")
MISTAKE, EH?
("-I WONDER IF HE'S LYING? BUT WHY SHOULD HE?-")
SO HERE YOU ARE! GET DOWN TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS RIGHT AWAY. THEY'VE CAPTURED THE HUMAN BOMB!
COME ON, LOIS! ("-WHEW! IF WHITE HADN'T COME WHEN HE DID!-")
WHEN THE TWO REPORTERS REACH THE POLICE STATION...
ANY NEWS ABOUT THE HUMAN BOMB, CASEY?
HE REFUSES TO SAY ANYTHING. BUT...
WE'VE DISCOVERED WHO HE IS,-- A WELL-TO-DO, RESPECTABLE BUSINESS MAN WHO DISAPPEARED SOME TIME AGO. IT SEEMS STRANGE SUCH A MAN COULD TURN TO CRIME.
THERE'S A RATIONAL EXPLANATION FOR IT-- IF WE COULD ONLY THINK OF IT!
AT THAT MOMENT....SIX MEN WITH STARING EYES WALK STIFFLY INTO POLICE HEADQUARTERS....
WE WANT THE HUMAN BOMB!
WHAT—?!
LOIS! THEY'RE NOT BLUFFING!
I'M AFRAID YOU'RE RIGHT!
5

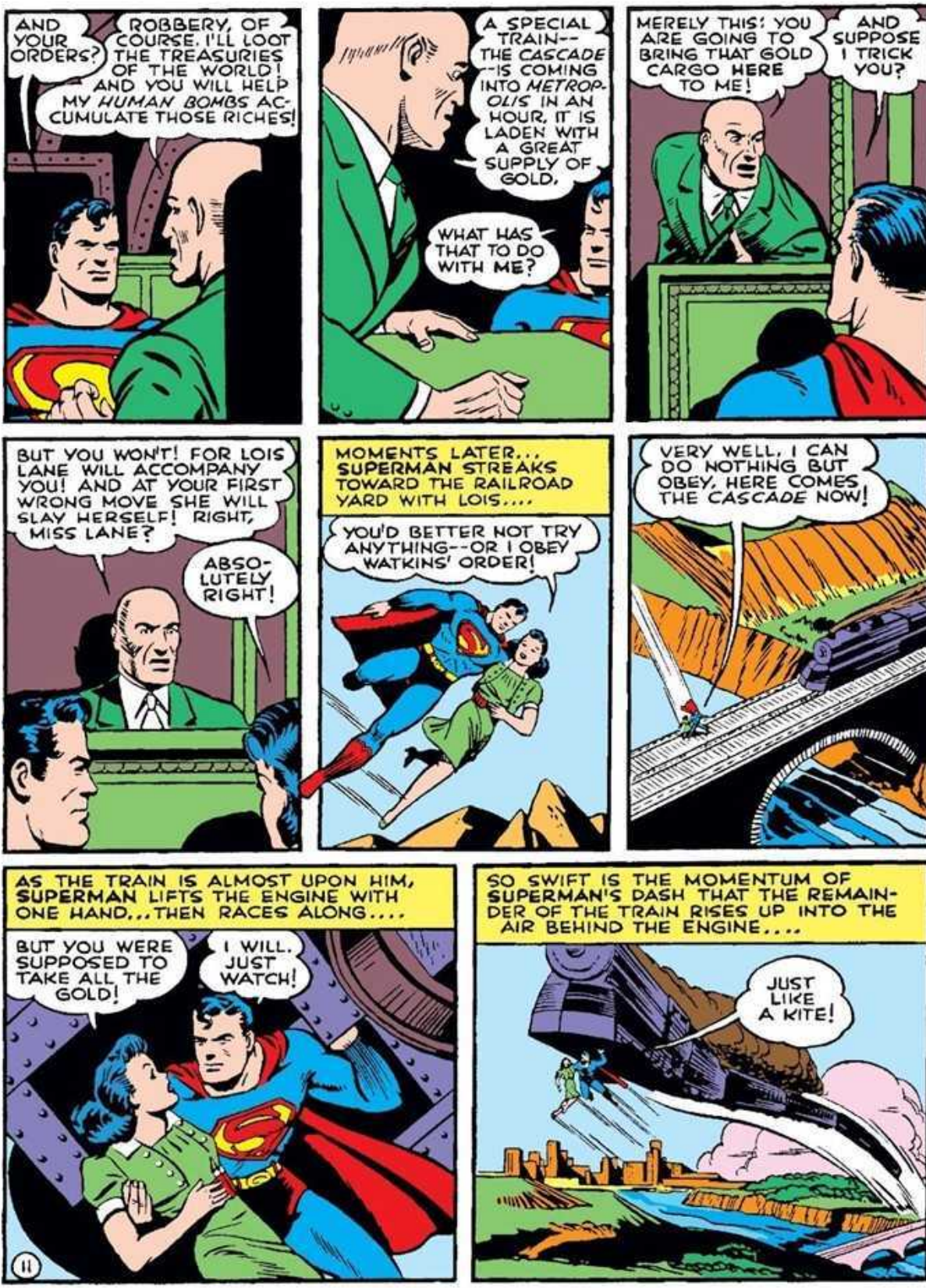
WANT THE HUMAN BOMB, EH? AND WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU CAN GET HIM?
THIS!
HELPLESS BEFORE THE MENACE OF THESE ABSOLUTELY FEARLESS CREATURES, THE POLICE RELEASE THEIR CAPTIVE...
YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS!
NO? KEEP IN MIND THE FACT WE'RE READY TO BLOW OURSELVES TO BITS!
AS THE HUMAN BOMBS SPEED AWAY IN AN AUTO...
LET'S GET BACK TO THE PLANET AND RUSH THIS INTO PRINT!
RIGHT AWAY, LOIS!
BUT THE INSTANT LOIS LOOKS AWAY, CLARK WHIZZES OFF...
("-GOT TO TRAVEL!-")
CLARK, GONE! WHERE'S HE DISAPPEARED TO, NOW?
WITHIN THE ALLEY, KENT SWIFTLY REMOVES HIS OUTER GARMENTS....
PERHAPS I CAN MAKE THOSE HUMAN BOMBS FIZZLE!
FUNNY ABOUT CLARK'S FREQUENT DISAPPEARANCES. IT'S ALMOST AS THO HE WERE TRYING TO HIDE SOMETHING FROM ME.--BUT NO...I'M JUST IMAGINING THINGS.
6
A GREAT SPRING SENDS THE MAN OF TOMORROW HURTLING SKYWARD....
THINGS HAVE GONE TOO FAR WHEN THESE AMAZING CRIMINALS INTIMIDATE A GREAT CITY'S POLICE FORCE! IT'S ABOUT TIME I PUT AN END TO THEIR EXPLOITS!

IT TAKES THE MAN OF STEEL BUT A MINUTE TO LOCATE THE FLEEING AUTO....
NOW FOR A RECKONING!
BUT HALF WAY TO HIS GOAL, SUPERMAN ARCHES UPWARD....
NO, I'VE A BETTER IDEA...
IT WOULD BE A SIMPLE MATTER FOR ME TO ATTEND TO THOSE HUMAN BOMBS. BUT THAT WOULDN'T ACCOMPLISH MUCH. WHAT I MUST LEARN IS WHO IS BEHIND THEM....AND I'M POSITIVE THEY WON'T TALK.
WHAT'S THIS?
THE AUTO DRIVES INTO A CAVERN...AFTER IT ENTERS, A MASSIVE BOULDER MOVES INTO PLACE, SCREENING THE ENTRANCE....
SWOOPING DOWN BEFORE THE BOULDER, SUPERMAN HEAVES IT ALOFT WITH A SURGE OF HIS POWERFUL BICEPS...!
CLEAR THE WAY!
SUPERMAN, I PRESUME. PLEASE STEP IN.
WELL! THE LAST THING I EXPECTED WAS A DISPLAY OF HOSPITALITY!
7

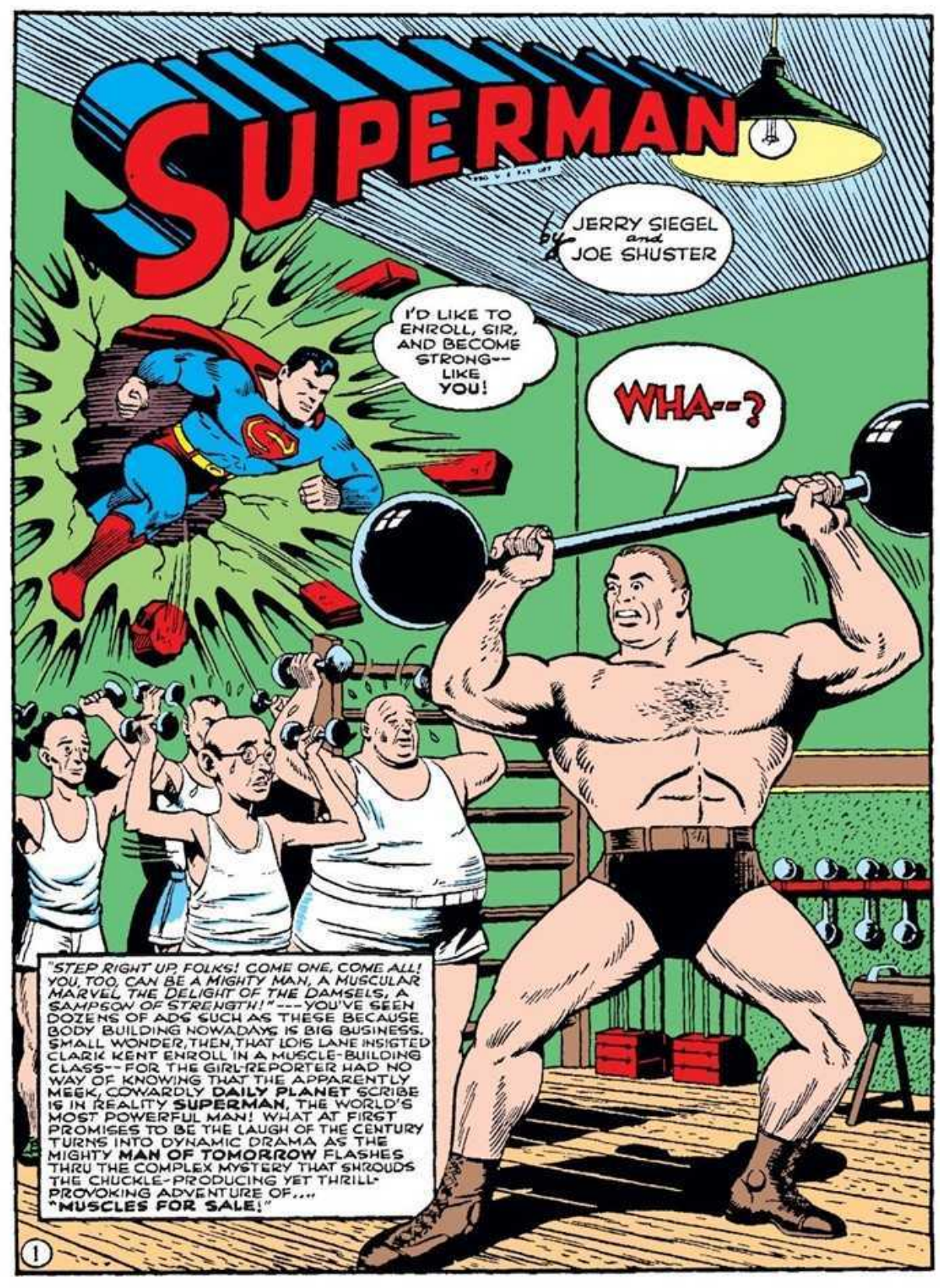
THE MAN OF TOMORROW FINDS HIMSELF IN A LARGE CAVERN. HUMAN BOMBS STAND ALERTLY ABOUT, AND SEATED ON A THRONE, DOMINATING THE ROOM, IS A HAWK-FACED MAN OF UTTERLY RUTHLESS FEATURES....
SO YOU'VE COME...JUST AS I EXPECTED YOU WOULD...
I WON'T STAY LONG. JUST LONG ENOUGH TO DESTROY YOUR MAD PLANS.
ON THE CONTRARY, YOU WILL BE A VERY DOCILE GUEST, AND WHY? BECAUSE IF YOU DON'T, THESE MEN WILL DESTROY THEMSELVES.
AND WHY SHOULD I BE INTERESTED IN THEIR FATE?
BECAUSE THEY ARE INNOCENT RESPECTABLE PEOPLE TRAPPED BY MY HYPNOTIC POWER. IT WAS I WHO INVENTED THE BOMB-APPARATUS WHICH MAKES IT POSSIBLE FOR THEM TO ROB WITHOUT OPPOSITION. MY WORD IS LAW TO THEM.
TOO BAD YOU ARE HAMPERED BY SCRUPLES, EH, SUPERMAN?--FORTUNATELY, I, WATKINS, AM NOT BURDENED WITH A CONSCIENCE!
THEN WHAT DO YOU EXPECT ME TO DO?
ABSOLUTELY NOTHING! AT THIS VERY MOMENT, MY MEN ARE ABOUT TO ROB THE LANA COMPANY'S JEWELRY VAULT!
THANKS! GOODBYE!
A ROBBERY AT THE LANA COMPANY, EH? PERHAPS THERE'S STILL TIME FOR ME TO THROW A HITCH INTO THE PROCEEDINGS!
OUT THRU THE SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN CRASHES THE MAN OF STEEL...
8
BUT AT THAT VERY MOMENT--
I SAID, OPEN THAT VAULT OR I'LL DESTROY US ALL!
YES, YES! I'LL HAVE THE VAULT OPEN IN A FEW MINUTES!
AND HURRY!

AS THE VAULT DOOR SWINGS OPEN....
THERE! IT'S OPEN!
ONE SIDE!
SUPERMAN STREAKS IN THRU THE OPEN WINDOW...
GOT TO ACT QUICKLY!
A MAN-MADE TYPHOON WHIRLS BETWEEN THE ADVANCING HUMAN BOMBS AND THE VAULT... AND IN THAT SPLIT SECOND SUPERMAN ANNEXES THE JEWELRY....
THE VAULT-- EMPTY!
WE'VE BEEN TRICKED! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
IT IS EMPTY! B-BUT HOW... ???
WHEN THE HUMAN BOMBS FLEE THE VAULT-ROOM, SUPERMAN, HANGING BY HIS FINGERTIPS FROM THE WINDOW-SILL, HURLS THE MISSING JEWELRY BACK IN.
THE--THE JEWELS! BUT--!
IT'S SUPER-MAN! HE SAVED THE JEWELS!
HERE YOU ARE --WITH MY COMPLIMENTS!
NOW TO DROP IN ON WATKINS AGAIN.... ONLY THIS TIME, UNANNOUNCED...!
NEAR THE MOUNTAIN, SUPERMAN DIVES AT THE GROUND... BEGINS BURROWING!
IT'S A CINCH-- WHEN YOU KNOW HOW!
...THEN DISAPPEARS FROM VIEW!
9

POOR SUPERMAN--ONCE MASTER OF ANY SITUATION--INVULNERABLE--BUT THAT WAS BEFORE HE ENCOUNTERED ME, AND MY HUMAN BOMBS!
SUDDENLY...AN UPHEAVAL OF EARTH....
WHAT--??
EMERGING INTO VIEW, SUPERMAN SEIZES WATKINS BEFORE HE REALIZES WHAT IS OCCURRING....
I'M SURE YOU DON'T MIND WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR HUMAN BOMBS--BUT STRONGLY CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR OWN NECK!
LET ME GO!
NOTHING DOING, WHEN I LET YOU GO, IT WILL BE TO DROP YOU IN A CELL!
THAT SCREEN! REMOVE IT!
LOIS!
AS YOU CAN SEE, SHE IS UNDER MY HYPNOTIC POWER. TELL HIM, LOIS LANE, TELL HIM WHAT I HAVE ORDERED YOU TO DO IF HE DOESN'T OBEY ME!
I AM TO KILL MYSELF!
YOU'VE WON, BUT HOW DID YOU GET LOIS HERE?
KIDNAPPING IS ONE OF MY MINOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS.
AND NOW--?
NOW YOU WILL DO AS I SAY!
10

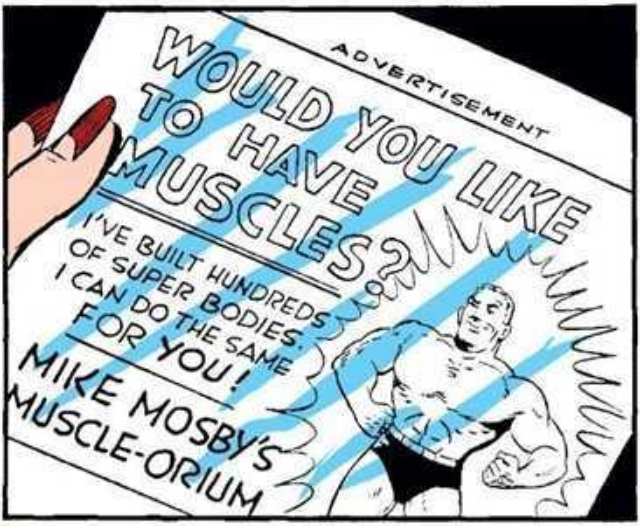

AND YOUR ORDERS?
ROBBERY, OF COURSE. I'LL LOOT THE TREASURIES OF THE WORLD! AND YOU WILL HELP MY HUMAN BOMBS ACCUMULATE THOSE RICHES!
A SPECIAL TRAIN--THE CASCADE--IS COMING INTO METROPOLIS IN AN HOUR. IT IS LADEN WITH A GREAT SUPPLY OF GOLD.
WHAT HAS THAT TO DO WITH ME?
MERELY THIS: YOU ARE GOING TO BRING THAT GOLD CARGO HERE TO ME!
AND SUPPOSE I TRICK YOU?
BUT YOU WON'T! FOR LOIS LANE WILL ACCOMPANY YOU! AND AT YOUR FIRST WRONG MOVE SHE WILL SLAY HERSELF! RIGHT, MISS LANE?
ABSOLUTELY RIGHT!
MOMENTS LATER... SUPERMAN STREAKS TOWARD THE RAILROAD YARD WITH LOIS....
YOU'D BETTER NOT TRY ANYTHING--OR I OBEY WATKINS' ORDER!
VERY WELL, I CAN DO NOTHING BUT OBEY. HERE COMES THE CASCADE NOW!
AS THE TRAIN IS ALMOST UPON HIM, SUPERMAN LIFTS THE ENGINE WITH ONE HAND...THEN RACES ALONG....
BUT YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO TAKE ALL THE GOLD!
I WILL. JUST WATCH!
SO SWIFT IS THE MOMENTUM OF SUPERMAN'S DASH THAT THE REMAINDER OF THE TRAIN RISES UP INTO THE AIR BEHIND THE ENGINE....
JUST LIKE A KITE!
11

LATER..., OUTSIDE THE MOUNTAIN HIDEAWAY....
ARE YOU PLEASED?
YOU HAVE DONE WELL!
BUT AS GOVERNMENT GUARDS SPRING FROM THE TRAIN, A PITCHED BATTLE ENSUES BETWEEN THEM AND THE HUMAN BOMBS!
BLAST THEM OUT OF EXISTENCE!
RACING BETWEEN THE TWO BATTLING PARTIES, SUPERMAN EXPERTLY CATCHES ALL THE BULLETS....
I DON'T WANT EITHER OF YOU TO GET HURT!
AND NOW FOR YOU!
HUMAN BOMBS! KILL YOURSELVES! I, WATKINS, COMMAND IT!
IN ANSWER TO THE MASTER HYPNOTIST'S COMMAND, THE HUMAN BOMBS PREPARE TO CARRY OUT THE ORDER...
HE WANTS US TO KILL OURSELVES...
...AND HIS WORD IS LAW!
THE END OF YOUR CROOKED SCHEMES!
THEIR LEADER KNOCKED UNCONSCIOUS BY SUPERMAN'S BLOW, THE HUMAN BOMBS ARE FREED FROM HIS HYPNOTIC INFLUENCE...
W-WAS I WEARING THIS?
WHERE HAVE I BEEN?
THESE MEN ARE GUILTLESS OF THE CRIMES THEY MAY HAVE COMMITTED, THEY WERE COMPLETELY DOMINATED BY WATKINS' WILL!
LATER...THE DAILY PLANET...
HOW DID YOU LIKE MY SCOOP?
EVEN SUPERMAN COULDN'T HAVE DONE BETTER!
THE END
12


SUPERMAN
by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
I'D LIKE TO ENROLL, SIR, AND BECOME STRONG-- LIKE YOU!
WHA--?
"STEP RIGHT UP FOLKS! COME ONE, COME ALL! YOU, TOO, CAN BE A MIGHTY MAN, A MUSCULAR MARVEL, THE DELIGHT OF THE DAMSELS, A SAMPSON OF STRENGTH!" --- YOU'VE SEEN DOZENS OF ADS SUCH AS THESE BECAUSE BODY BUILDING NOWADAYS IS BIG BUSINESS. SMALL WONDER, THEN, THAT LOIS LANE INSISTED CLARK KENT ENROLL IN A MUSCLE-BUILDING CLASS-- FOR THE GIRL-REPORTER HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING THAT THE APPARENTLY MEEK, COWARDLY DAILY PLANET SCRIBE IS IN REALITY SUPERMAN, THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL MAN! WHAT AT FIRST PROMISES TO BE THE LAUGH OF THE CENTURY TURNS INTO DYNAMIC DRAMA AS THE MIGHTY MAN OF TOMORROW FLASHES THRU THE COMPLEX MYSTERY THAT SHROUDS THE CHUCKLE-PRODUCING YET THRILL-PROVOKING ADVENTURE OF.... "MUSCLES FOR SALE!"
1

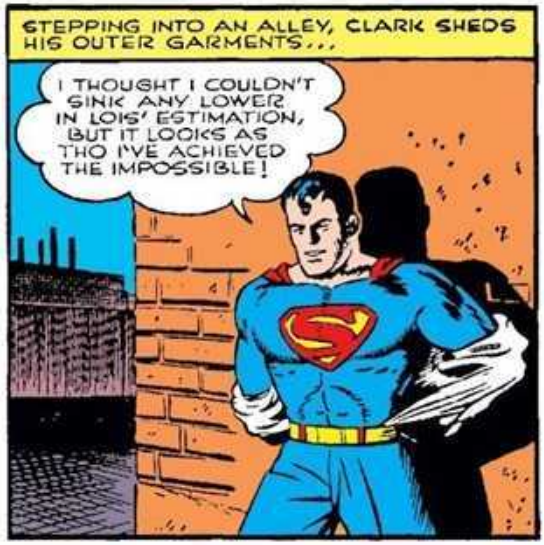
INTO ONE OF METROPOLIS' MOST EXCLUSIVE JEWELRY ESTABLISHMENTS HESITANTLY ENTERS A MEEK INDIVIDUAL....
WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, SIR?
ER... I... I'M JUST LOOKING AROUND.
SO HELP ME, BUT DOESN'T THAT LITTLE SQUIRT LOOK LIKE A COMIC ARTIST'S CONCEPTION OF MR. NOBODY?
HE LOOKS AS THOUGH HE HASN'T MORE THAN A FEW DOLLARS IN THIS WORLD. WATCH ME HAVE SOME FUN WITH HIM!
WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN THIS LITTLE TRINKET -- PRICE A MERE $75,000?
I--I MIGHT BE INTERESTED, AT THAT!
IN FACT, I'LL TAKE IT WITH ME RIGHT NOW!
A HOLDUP!
IMMEDIATELY, THE STORE DETECTIVE GOES INTO ACTION...
TRYING TO PLAY TOUGH, EH? WHY, YOU LITTLE HALF-PINT SQUIRT, I'LL...!
I WARN YOU! KEEP AWAY OR I'LL BE FORCED TO RESORT TO PHYSICAL VIOLENCE, SOMETHING WHICH I ORDINARILY ABHOR!
OWWW-WWW!
I WARNED YOU NOT TO TANGLE WITH SOMEONE OF MY SUPERIOR STATURE!
A THIEF! CLARK! STOP HIM!
JEWELRY STORE
YOU MEAN -- SINGLE-HANDED? ("-POLICE APPROACHING! THEY'LL HANDLE HIM!-")
2

STOP, I SAY! ("-GOT TO KEEP IN CHARACTER!-")
ONE SIDE! I'M A HUMAN CANNON BALL!
DELIBERATELY, CLARK PERMITS HIMSELF TO BE THRUST ASIDE.
LIKE A BREEZE!
OO-OOF! ("-NOW IT'S UP TO THE POLICE!-")
YOU CLUMSY FOOL! YOU LET HIM GET PAST YOU!
HUH? A BLOOMIN' KANGAROO!
IT'S NOT AS DIFFICULT AS IT LOOKS!
EXCUSE ME, LOIS! ("-HE ELUDED THE POLICE! NOW TO GET AFTER HIM AS SUPERMAN!-")
TRYING TO SLIP AWAY AND PHONE IN THE STORY, EH? NO, YOU DON'T! I'M STICKING WITH YOU!
BUT AFTER THEY REPORT THE OCCURRENCE TO THE DAILY PLANET...
(PUFF! PUFF!) WAIT FOR ME! I CAN HARDLY KEEP UP WITH YOU!
WHAT A MISERABLE SPECIMEN OF HUMANITY YOU ARE! FRANKLY, I'M ASHAMED TO BE SEEN WITH YOU!
DRUG
LATER-- IN THE SUBWAY
BUT, LOIS- YOU CAN'T EXPECT EVERYONE TO BE A SUPERMAN!
DON'T SPEAK TO ME!
A CONSPICUOUS ADVERTISEMENT CATCHES LOIS' STARTLED INTEREST
WELL!!
3


ADVERTISEMENT
WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE MUSCLES?
I'VE BUILT HUNDREDS OF SUPER BODIES. I CAN DO THE SAME FOR YOU!
MIKE MOSBY'S MUSCLE-ORIUM

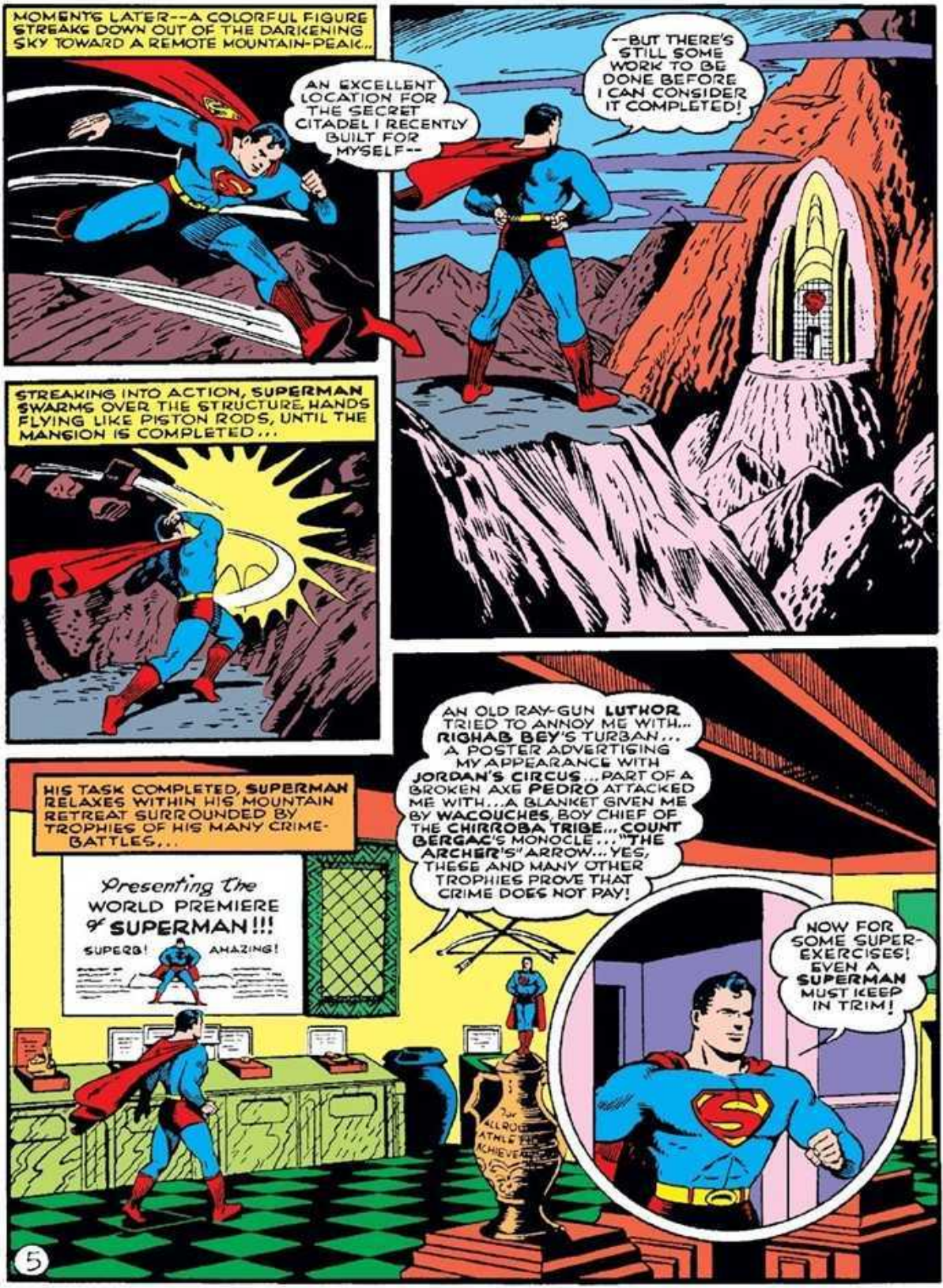
WHY DON'T YOU GO TO MOSBY'S GYM, CLARK, AND MOLD YOUR FLABBY MUSCLES INTO SINEWS OF STEEL?
BUT THAT WOULD REQUIRE EXERCISE!
SUBWAY

I MIGHT HAVE EXPECTED A REMARK LIKE THAT FROM YOU! YOU'RE SO SPINELESS SOMEONE OUGHT TO DONATE YOU TO THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY!
BUT---!
BUS STOP


STEPPING INTO AN ALLEY, CLARK SHEDS HIS OUTER GARMENTS...
I THOUGHT I COULDN'T SINK ANY LOWER IN LOIS' ESTIMATION, BUT IT LOOKS AS THO I'VE ACHIEVED THE IMPOSSIBLE!

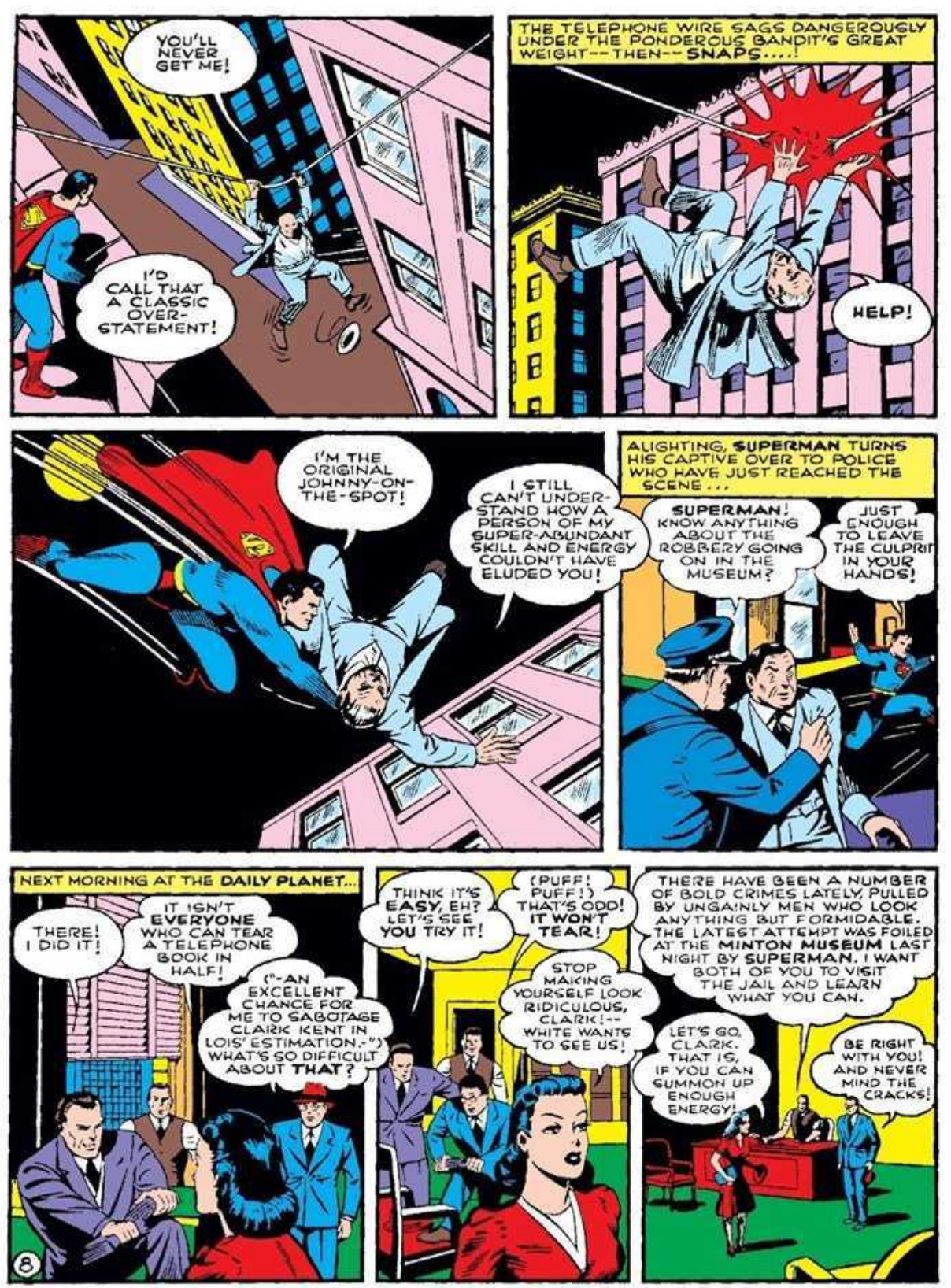
...AND A MOMENT LATER IS TRANSFORMED TO THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL CRIME-FIGHTER... SUPERMAN!
THERE'S A LITTLE JOB I'VE STILL TO FINISH!
4

UP—UP AND AWAY!!


MOMENTS LATER--A COLORFUL FIGURE STREAKS DOWN OUT OF THE DARKENING SKY TOWARD A REMOTE MOUNTAIN-PEAK...
AN EXCELLENT LOCATION FOR THE SECRET CITADEL I RECENTLY BUILT FOR MYSELF--
--BUT THERE'S STILL SOME WORK TO BE DONE BEFORE I CAN CONSIDER IT COMPLETED!
STREAKING INTO ACTION, SUPERMAN SWARMS OVER THE STRUCTURE, HANDS FLYING LIKE PISTON RODS, UNTIL THE MANSION IS COMPLETED...
AN OLD RAY-GUN LUTHOR TRIED TO ANNOY ME WITH... RIGHAB BEY'S TURBAN... A POSTER ADVERTISING MY APPEARANCE WITH JORDAN'S CIRCUS... PART OF A BROKEN AXE PEDRO ATTACKED ME WITH... A BLANKET GIVEN ME BY WACOUCHES, BOY CHIEF OF THE CHIRROBA TRIBE... COUNT BERGAC'S MONOCLE... "THE ARCHER'S" ARROW... YES, THESE AND MANY OTHER TROPHIES PROVE THAT CRIME DOES NOT PAY!
HIS TASK COMPLETED, SUPERMAN RELAXES WITHIN HIS MOUNTAIN RETREAT SURROUNDED BY TROPHIES OF HIS MANY CRIME-BATTLES...
Presenting the WORLD PREMIERE of SUPERMAN!!!
SUPERB!
AMAZING!
NOW FOR SOME SUPER-EXERCISES! EVEN A SUPERMAN MUST KEEP IN TRIM!
5

SUPERMAN INDULGES IN ACROBATICS THAT WOULD CAUSE ANY GYM ENTHUSIAST TO DOUBT HIS EYESIGHT. HE SPEEDS UP AND DOWN A LONG ROPE -- BACKWARDS!
THIS OUGHT TO BE A POPULAR SPORT IN CHINA!
NOT CONTENT WITH CHINNING IN THE CONVENTIONAL MANNER, HE RAISES AND LOWERS THE HUGE BAR TO HIS CHIN...!
DOIN' IT THE HARD WAY!
'ROUND AND 'ROUND THE CIRCULAR TRACK HE RACES AT SO GREAT A SPEED THERE APPEARS TO BE ONE CONTINUOUS BODY GIRDLING THE TRACK!
AT THIS RATE, I'LL CATCH UP WITH MYSELF!!
ROBBERY IN PROGRESS AT MINTON MUSEUM!
GOOD FOR THE SHOULDER-BLADES!
BUSINESS BEFORE PLEASURE!
AS SUPERMAN SPRINGS INTO THE AIR TO PERFORM ANOTHER STUNT, HIS SUPER-SENSITIVE HEARING PICKS UP A POLICE SHORT-WAVE BROADCAST THAT CAUSES HIM TO CHANGE THE DIRECTION OF HIS LEAP...
6

AT THE MINTON MUSEUM, A ROTUND BANDIT HOLDS THE GUARDS AT BAY AS HE ANNEXES AN EXHIBIT OF VALUABLE GEMS...
YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS!
STRANGELY ENOUGH, I'M SUPREMELY CONFIDENT THAT I WILL!
THEN HERE'S WHERE YOU GET A RUDE SHOCK!
SUPERMAN!
YOU CAN PUT THOSE GEMS RIGHT BACK WHERE YOU GOT THEM!
I'M NOT READY TO GIVE UP-- YET!
DELIBERATELY, THE CORPULENT CRIMINAL FIRES A BARRAGE OF BULLETS AT THE CHANDELIER OVERHEAD. SEVERED FROM ITS BASE, IT TOPPLES DOWN TOWARD THE STARTLED GUARDS BELOW...
THAT OUGHT TO KEEP YOU BUSY!
BUT NOT FOR LONG!
IT WILL BE LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO ESCAPE!
MEANWHILE--CRASHING HEAD-ON INTO THE FALLING CHANDELIER, SUPERMAN BATTERS IT ASIDE...
MOVE OVER!
...SO THAT IT MISSES ITS INTENDED VICTIMS!
WE OWE YOU OUR LIVES!
NEXT ON THE PROGRAM--I'VE GOT TO PREVENT FAT BOY'S ESCAPE.
7


YOU'LL NEVER GET ME!
I'D CALL THAT A CLASSIC OVER-STATEMENT!
THE TELEPHONE WIRE SAGS DANGEROUSLY UNDER THE PONDEROUS BANDIT'S GREAT WEIGHT--THEN--SNAPS....!
HELP!
I'M THE ORIGINAL JOHNNY-ON-THE-SPOT!
I STILL CAN'T UNDERSTAND HOW A PERSON OF MY SUPER-ABUNDANT SKILL AND ENERGY COULDN'T HAVE ELUDED YOU!
ALIGHTING, SUPERMAN TURNS HIS CAPTIVE OVER TO POLICE WHO HAVE JUST REACHED THE SCENE...
SUPERMAN! KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE ROBBERY GOING ON IN THE MUSEUM?
JUST ENOUGH TO LEAVE THE CULPRIT IN YOUR HANDS!
NEXT MORNING AT THE DAILY PLANET...
THERE! I DID IT!
IT ISN'T EVERYONE WHO CAN TEAR A TELEPHONE BOOK IN HALF!
("-AN EXCELLENT CHANCE FOR ME TO SABOTAGE CLARK KENT IN LOIS' ESTIMATION.-") WHAT'S SO DIFFICULT ABOUT THAT?
THINK IT'S EASY, EH? LET'S SEE YOU TRY IT!
(PUFF! PUFF!) THAT'S ODD! IT WON'T TEAR!
STOP MAKING YOURSELF LOOK RIDICULOUS, CLARK!-- WHITE WANTS TO SEE US!
THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF BOLD CRIMES LATELY, PULLED BY UNGAINLY MEN WHO LOOK ANYTHING BUT FORMIDABLE. THE LATEST ATTEMPT WAS FOILED AT THE MINTON MUSEUM LAST NIGHT BY SUPERMAN. I WANT BOTH OF YOU TO VISIT THE JAIL AND LEARN WHAT YOU CAN.
LET'S GO, CLARK. THAT IS, IF YOU CAN SUMMON UP ENOUGH ENERGY!
BE RIGHT WITH YOU! AND NEVER MIND THE CRACKS!
8

LATER--
WHAT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND, MR. BRANT, IS WHY A QUIET, SANE, RESPECTABLE BUSINESS MAN OF YOUR FINE INTEGRITY SHOULD HAVE TURNED TO CRIME.
DON'T PREACH TO ME!
GEORGE--GEORGE.., THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE YOU AT ALL!
AT HIS FIRST OPPORTUNITY, CLARK TAKES MRS. BRANT ASIDE.
I--I ESPECIALLY CAN'T UNDERSTAND THESE REPORTS THAT SAY GEORGE WAS ATHLETIC AND DARING IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THE CRIME. HE WAS ALWAYS TIMID, SLOW-MOVING--HAD, AS A MATTER OF FACT, BEEN REGULARLY GOING TO MIKE MOSBY'S MUSCLE-ORIUM TO REDUCE.
HM-MMM!
LOIS... I'VE BEEN GIVING YOUR SUGGESTION SOME SERIOUS THOUGHT. I THINK I'LL ENROLL AT MOSBY'S GYM AFTER ALL!
SOME SENSE AT LAST!
MR. MOSBY, CLARK IS PUNY AND WEAK--EVERYONE ALWAYS PICKS ON HIM...
("-HERE'S WHERE I MAKE A BIG IMPRESSION ON THIS SWELL DISH BY BEATING UP HER BOY FRIEND!-") GET INTO A GYM SUIT, KENT. WE'LL GIVE MISS LANE A PREVIEW OF THE TOUGHENING PROCESS YOU'LL RECEIVE HERE!
ULP! ("-THAT LITTLE FELLOW STROLLING BY! HE'S THE CHAP WHO ROBBED THE JEWELRY STORE!-")
NOT BAD! WHY, CLARK--YOU HAVEN'T SUCH A POOR PHYSIQUE, AT THAT!
ER--THINK SO?
HE'S GOT SOME GOOD BASIC MATERIAL THERE, BUT IT'S GOT TO BE WHIPPED INTO SHAPE. PUT ON THESE GLOVES!
OUCH! THAT HURT!!
PUT UP YOUR MITTS. WE'LL PUT ON A SPARRING EXHIBITION FOR TH' LITTLE LADY! ("-HO! HO! AFTER I BEAT HIS EARS OFF, SHE'LL BE DELIGHTED TO GO OUT TO LUNCH WITH ME!-")
BUT CLARK SKILLFULLY DODGES MIKE'S POWER-HOUSE PUNCHES, AND THE INFURIATED PHYSICAL INSTRUCTOR CONTINUALLY FLAILS EMPTY SPACE...!
FIGHT LIKE A MAN, YA CRAZY JACK-IN-TH'-BOX!!
DISCRETION IS THE BETTER PART OF VALOR!
9
YOW-W!
TCH! TCH!
I'VE SEEN ENOUGH OF THIS FARCE! WHILE YOU TWO PLAY HIDE-AND-GO SEEK, I'VE IMPORTANT WORK TO DO!

I'M CLARK KENT. CAN YOU TELL ME WHO THAT FELLOW IS?
HE'S NAT FOLSOM, A BANKER. BUT THEY SAY HE MADE HIS FORTUNE OUT OF PROHIBITION. ME, I'M JAKE MASSEY, JUST AN ORDINARY GUY.
DOES ANYTHING--ER--UNUSUAL--THAT IS, OTHER THAN GYM INSTRUCTION, GO ON AROUND HERE? ("-SO FOLSOM MAY HAVE BEEN A RACKETEER!-")
THE ONLY THING I'VE NOTICED IS THAT THEY EXERCISE YOU TO TH' POINT OF EXHAUSTION. IT'S TOO MUCH FOR ME. I'M THINKING OF QUITTING!
MEANWHILE--AS MIKE BANDAGES HIS BRUISED FIST IN HIS PRIVATE OFFICE....
BLAST THAT KENT! I'LL MAKE HIM PAY FOR MAKING ME LOOK LIKE A SAP BEFORE HIS GIRL!
YOU'LL DO NOTHING OF THE KIND, MIKE!
IT'S TH' SPOOK AGAIN!--WH-WHAT ARE YOUR ORDERS JOHN L.?
OUR PARTNERSHIP HAS PROVEN EXCEEDINGLY LUCRATIVE THUS FAR. IF YOU WISH IT TO CONTINUE SO, MIKE, YOU MUST KEEP YOUR PERSONAL ANIMOSITIES UNDER CONTROL. GET OUT IN THE GYM--PUT THOSE CREAMPUFFS THRU THEIR PACES--AND LEAVE THE REST TO ME....!
MIKE PUTS HIS CLIENTS THRU A GRUELING SET OF EXERCISES.
PUSH-UPS...!
FASTER, YOU DECREPIT DODOS!
MEDICINE-BALL BARRAGE!
HARDER! THIS AIN'T BEAN BAG!
WRESTLING...!
HELP! I'M STUCK!
SO THAT HALF AN HOUR LATER, MIKE'S CUSTOMERS LAY WINDED AND PANTING ON THE MATS... AND AS THEY RECLINE THERE, HALF CONSCIOUS, COMPLETELY EXHAUSTED, A COMMANDING VOICE BOOMS FORTH....
STRONG! STRONG! ALL OF YOU ARE DARING, SUPERB ATHLETES--AND COMPLETELY SUBJECT TO MY WILL!
SUPERB ATHLETES--SUBJECT TO YOUR WILL...
("-MASS HYPNOTISM! I'LL PRETEND TO BE HYPNOTIZED WITH THE OTHERS!-")
YOU WHO CALL YOURSELF CLARK KENT--YOU ARE NOW SUPERMAN! YOU POSSESS ALL HIS MIGHTY POWERS!
HERE. PUT ON THIS ESPECIALLY MADE SUPERMAN UNIFORM.
("-WHAT A LAUGH! THEY'RE TRYING TO HYPNOTIZE ME INTO THINKING I'M SUPERMAN AND THE JOKE OF IT IS--I AM!-")
AFTER CLARK DONS THE UNIFORM....
UNDERSTAND? YOU ARE NOW ALL-POWERFUL! YOUR STRENGTH IS TERRIFIC!
LIKE THIS?
HOLY COW! HE SOCKED CLEAR THRU TH' WALL!
AN' TH' MIRACLE OF IT IS, HE DIDN'T BREAK A BONE, OR GET A SCRATCH!
WHAT ELSE DO YOU EXPECT OF SUPERMAN?
ATTENTION! YOUR INSTRUCTIONS ARE TO LOOT A BAZAAR BEING HELD AT THE HOTEL HANSOM'S PENTHOUSE BALLROOM THIS AFTERNOON. BRING THE LOOT HERE--THEN--FORGET EVERYTHING!!!

EN ROUTE TO THE BALLROOM...
("-I'LL STRING ALONG WITH THEM, PREVENT ANY REAL DAMAGE FROM BEING DONE, THEN EXPOSE THE ENTIRE SET-UP AT MY FIRST OPPORTUNITY!-")
FEEL MY HUGE MUSCLE!
I'M SO STRONG, I FRIGHTEN MYSELF! I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO PUT MYSELF TO THE TEST!
MEANWHILE--LOIS IS COVERING THE BAZAAR FOR THE SOCIETY PAGE...
HERE'S WHERE THINGS PICK UP! SUPERMAN!
BUT IN THE ENSUING MOMENTS IT IS CLEAR THAT THE NEW ARRIVALS HAVE COME FOR BUT ONE PURPOSE--ROBBERY!
BUT SURELY YOU WON'T STAND IDLY BY AND PERMIT THIS!
SHE SQUAWKS TOO MUCH! I GOTTA GOOD MIND TO SHOOT HER DOWN!
NO. LET'S TAKE HER BACK TO THE GYM AND DECIDE THERE WHAT HER FATE IS TO BE! ("-I'VE HAD PLENTY OF SCOOPS LATELY, IT'S ABOUT TIME I GAVE LOIS A BREAK!-")
BUT AS THE MESMERIZED BANDITS DEPART, SUPERMAN RACES BACK WITH THE LOOT-BURDENED SACK AT TOP SPEED....
NOW FOR A REFUND!
RACING SO SWIFTLY THE EYE CANNOT FOLLOW HIS MOVEMENTS, HE REPLACES THE LOOT IN THE POCKETS OF THE ROBBERY-VICTIMS...
CRIME TAKES A HOLIDAY!
AND A FRACTION OF A MOMENT LATER HE IS BACK WITH THE ESCAPING BANDITS....
("-WOULD MY PARTNERS IN CRIME BE ASTONISHED TO LEARN THAT THE SACK IS FILLED WITH CHEAP DECORATIONS!-")
11
BACK IN THE PENTHOUSE BALLROOM....
WHA--? BUT I DISTINCTLY REMEMBER MY WATCH HAVING BEEN STOLEN!
MY BRACELET!
AND TO THINK I SWORE OFF DRINKING THIS MORNING!
LATER--AT THE MUSCLE-ORIUM....
COUNT THE LOOT!
HUH? NOTHIN' HERE BUT CHEAP BAZAAR DECORATION MATERIALS!

WHAT SORT OF A DOUBLE-CROSSER'S TRICK IS THIS?
CUT IT OUT, MASSEY, OR THE SPOOK OF JOHN L. SULLIVAN WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU!
("-HERE'S WHERE THINGS START POPPING!-")
YOU FOOL--THERE NEVER WAS A GHOST! AN ACCOMPLISHED HYPNOTIST, I PLACED MINIATURE RADIO-EQUIPMENT BEHIND EACH OF THE PICTURES, AND BROADCAST MY MESSAGES THRU THIS SMALL MICROPHONE. I KNEW THAT YOUR CLIENTS ALL DESIRED TO BE STRONG MEN AND THAT THEY WOULD BE EASY SUBJECTS FOR HYPNOTISM--MY IDEA TO HAVE THESE FRUSTRATED PHYSICAL WRECKS PULL DARING ROBBERIES WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF HYPNOTISM WAS SUCCESSFUL, BUT I NEVER COUNTED ON YOU DOUBLE-CROSSING ME!
BUT I DIDN'T DOUBLE-CROSS YA, CHIEF!
YOU'RE LYING!
ON THE CONTRARY, THE CREDIT IS ENTIRELY MINE!
RUSH HIM! CRUSH HIM! I COMMAND YOU!
HOW TO OVERCOME THEM--WITHOUT HARMING THEM--??
THEY SHOULD KNOW THEY HAVEN'T A CHANCE AGAINST SUPERMAN!
BUT THAT'S NOT SUPERMAN--THAT'S YOUR REPORTER FRIEND, CLARK KENT, MADE UP TO LOOK LIKE HIM!
AN INSPIRATION STRIKES THE MAN OF STEEL. SNATCHING UP SEVERAL EXERCISE-CABLES, HE LINKS THEM TOGETHER ABOUT THE CHARGING MEN, EFFECTIVELY IMPRISONING THEM....
THERE! THAT OUGHT TO HOLD YOU!
TAKE HIM, MIKE!
WITH PLEASURE!
THE PLEASURE IS ALL MINE!
OOOO-OOF!
NICE GOING!
AWK!
SCRAMBLING ERECT, MASSEY DRAWS A BEAD ON LOIS....
AT LEAST I'LL GET YOUR GIRL FRIEND!
NO YOU WON'T!
ABRUPTLY, MASSEY DUCKS--OUT THE WINDOW TOPPLES SUPERMAN!
LOOK OUT!
THE END OF THAT FOOL!
12

AND NOW TO FINISH YOU!
NO— DON'T--!
HA! HA! TOO BAD YOUR BOY FRIEND CAN'T HELP YOU NOW!
ROUND TRIP!
LAST STOP --SWITCH TO EXPRESS, PLEASE!
BACK AGAIN! BUT HOW--??!
IS IT POSSIBLE THAT MY HYPNOTIC SUGGESTION REALLY GAVE YOU SUPERMAN'S MIGHTY POWERS?
COME, COME, BOYS! DON'T TELL ME YOU HAVEN'T YET REALIZED THAT I FREED CLARK KENT FROM THE HYPNOTIC SPELL AND TOOK HIS PLACE LONG AGO!
AND IF YOU'RE STILL DOUBTFUL-- HERE'S PROOF!!
NO WONDER I THOUGHT YOU WERE SUPERMAN ALL ALONG!
FREEING THE GYM CLIENTS FROM THEIR BONDS AND THE HYPNOTIC TRANCE, SUPERMAN SPRINGS AWAY....
I WANT ALL OF YOU MEN TO MEET ME AT PELHAM'S PLATEAU ONE WEEK FROM TODAY!
WE'LL BE THERE!
13
NEXT DAY--
YOU'RE SCOOPED— MR. BRANT HAS BEEN RESTORED TO HIS SENSES AND FREED—ALL THE LOOT STOLEN IN THE ROBBERIES HAS BEEN RETURNED—MIKE MOSBY AND JAKE MASSEY HAVE RECEIVED LONG JAIL TERMS! I FEEL SWELL!
WHAT CHANCE HAS AN ORDINARY GUY LIKE ME AGAINST A SUPERMAN?
SIX DAYS LATER-- PELHAM'S PLATEAU,...
THERE YOU ARE, GENTLEMEN! JUST FOLLOW THE FEW SIMPLE RULES I'VE MENTIONED AND YOU'LL SOON BE IN TIP-TOP SHAPE!
I FEEL BETTER ALREADY!
IT ISN'T EVERYONE WHO CAN HAVE SUPERMAN GIVE HIM PERSONAL LESSONS IN BODY-BUILDING!
THE END

SUPERMAN
by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
SUPERMAN HAS ALWAYS HAD THE EDGE ON HIS FOES--BUT ALL THAT IS IN THE PAST NOW THAT HIS GREATEST FOE, LUTHOR, POSSESSES INCREDIBLE POWERS OF HIS OWN! WHEN LUTHOR FINALLY GAINS POSSESSION OF THE LONG-SOUGHT POWERSTONE, IT LOOKS BAD FOR SUPERMAN. AND YOU'LL AGREE THAT SUPERMAN MEETS THE GREATEST OPPOSITION OF HIS CAREER IN THE STORY OF.... "WHEN TITANS CLASH!"
DAILY PLANET
FINAL
LUTHOR DIES TONIGHT IN ELECTRIC CHAIR
BUT, WHITE--CAN'T YOU GET ANYONE ELSE TO COVER THE ASSIGNMENT?
NO, CLARK--SOMEONE HAS TO COVER THAT EXECUTION FOR THE PLANET, AND IT'S GOING TO BE YOU!
THIS IS ONE TIME I DON'T CARE TO CUT IN ON CLARK'S ASSIGNMENT!
1

AND SO IT OCCURS THAT LATE THAT EVENING CLARK KENT IS NERVOUSLY SEATED BESIDE OTHER REPORTERS IN THE EXECUTION CHAMBERS....
THIS--TH-THIS IS MY FIRST EXECUTION!
BUCK UP! YOU GET USED TO THEM AFTER A WHILE!
AND IF EVER ANYONE DESERVED TO BE ELECTROCUTED, IT'S LUTHOR!
AS THE HANDS OF THE CLOCK INDICATE THAT THE FATEFUL HOUR FAST APPROACHES, NERVES TENSE TO AN UNBEARABLE PITCH--SUDDENLY THE DOOR TO THE ROOM OPENS ... A DEFIANT LUTHOR IS LED IN BY GUARDS....
LET GO OF ME! I CAN WALK ALONE!
THE FIENDISH SCIENTIST IS STRAPPED INTO THE ELECTRIC CHAIR. THEN...
ANY LAST WORDS?
JUST THIS, SUPERMAN IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MY BEING HERE AND ELECTRIC CHAIR, OR NO ELECTRIC CHAIR, I'LL LIVE TO GET EVEN WITH HIM!
THE EXECUTIONER FLINGS THE SWITCH...
OFF
... AND IN RESPONSE THE SEATED FIGURE IS STRUCK BY A POWERFUL FORCE. THERE IS A ROARING HUM... THE LIGHTS IN THE ROOM DIM...
BUT A STRANGE, INCREDIBLE THING OCCURS! INSTEAD OF SLUMPING, LUTHOR'S FIGURE STRAIGHTENS WITH UNEXPECTED ENERGY...
YOU FOOLS—YOU POOR, STUPID FOOLS...!
EASILY THE MASTER FIEND SNAPS HIS METAL BONDS, THEN TOWERS ERECT!
YOU FOOLS! THAT GREAT CHARGE OF ELECTRICITY WAS JUST WHAT I NEEDED TO RESTORE MY INCREDIBLE STRENGTH! YOU'VE FREED ME, AND NOW NOTHING CAN STOP ME—NOTHING!
2

REPORTERS AND GUARDS SURGE FORWARD TO PREVENT THE SENTENCED CRIMINAL'S ESCAPE...
STOP HIM!
JUST TRY TO STOP ME!
DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!
EASILY, LUTHOR RIPS THE ELECTRIC CHAIR FREE FROM ITS CONNECTIONS, HURLS IT TOWARD THE WARDEN...
YOU WANTED TO GIVE ME THE ELECTRIC CHAIR--BUT HERE'S WHERE YOU GET IT!
("-IF THAT CHAIR STRIKES THE WARDEN, IT MAY KILL HIM!-")
DELIBERATELY STEPPING INTO THE FLYING CHAIR'S PATH, CLARK PERMITS IT TO SMASH AGAINST HIM....
OH-HHH-H...!
("-MADE IT!-")
AN INSTANT LATER, LUTHOR SMASHES HIS WAY OUT THRU THE PRISON WALL....
NO ONE CAN STOP ME --NO ONE!
MEANWHILE--
LET ME UP! I--I'M ALL RIGHT!
HE'S ALIVE--WAS ONLY STUNNED...!
IT'S A WONDER HE WASN'T KILLED!
SWIFTLY, CLARK TELEPHONES IN THE STORY....
HOLD THE PRESSES! I'VE A REAL STORY FOR YOU!!
THIS DONE, HE SLIPS AWAY AND, UN-OBSERVED, CHANGES TO HIS SUPERMAN COSTUME....
I'VE GOT TO STOP THAT MADMAN'S FLIGHT! IF HE SUCCEEDS IN HIS ESCAPE, THERE'S NO LIMIT TO THE DESTRUCTION HE MAY UNLEASH!
3

OUT INTO THE NIGHT SPEEDS THE STREAKING FIGURE OF THE MAN OF TOMORROW...
HE CAN'T HAVE GONE FAR!
MEANWHILE--A SQUADRON OF POLICE HAVE OVERTAKEN THE FUGITIVE. BUT AS THEY FIRE AT HIM, THE ELECTRICAL FORCE EMANATING FROM THE MASTER CRIMINAL'S FIGURE REPELS THEIR BULLETS...
THE BULLETS--THEY DON'T HURT HIM...
JUST LIKE SUPERMAN!
YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME!
DOWN PLUMMETS THE MAN OF STEEL IN LUTHOR'S PATH...
NOW YOU'VE ME TO RECKON WITH!
DESPERATELY, THE POLICE CLOSE IN ON THEIR FOE. BUT AS THEY DO, HE SHOCKS THEM INTO INSENSIBILITY...
LET GO, YOU FOOLS! IF YOU DON'T ABANDON PURSUIT, I'LL DESTROY YOU!
THE TWO FIGURES LOCK IN DEADLY BATTLE, MUSCLES STRAIN--A CLASH OF PHYSICAL GIANTS....
I--I CAN'T BUDGE YOU!
THE ELECTRICITY IMPARTS TO ME STRENGTH AS GREAT AS YOUR OWN!
IF IT'S FIGHT YOU WANT, I'LL GIVE YOU PLENTY OF IT!
SKYWARD HURTLES SUPERMAN...
THAT'S ODD! HE'S VANISHED!
BUT WITH A SUDDEN SURGE OF POWER THE MAN OF TOMORROW HURLS HIS OPPONENT SKYWARD....
...ALMOST AS GREAT!
LUTHOR HAD CLUTCHED THE LANDING-GEAR OF A PASSING AIRPLANE. NOW, AS THE VESSEL PUTS EVEN GREATER DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPERMAN AND HIMSELF...
SO SUPERMAN IS STILL PHYSICALLY MY SUPERIOR! I'LL NEVER BE RULER OF THE WORLD UNTIL I'VE MASTERED HIM ...AND I CAN'T DO THAT UNTIL I SECURE THE POWERSTONE!
4

BACK AT HIS OLD HAUNTS, LUTHOR LOSES NO TIME IN HATCHING ANOTHER CRIME-PLOT...
YOU HAVE YOUR ORDERS!
YEAH... BUT ARE YA SURE YA CAN DO WHAT YOU PLAN?
IT'S STILL HARD TO BELIEVE YOU'RE ALMOST AS STRONG AS SUPERMAN!
LATER...AS THE ELKHART EXPRESS REACHES METROPOLIS' OUTSKIRTS
WHAT'S WRONG?
A MAN-- ON THE TRACKS...!
PITTING HIMSELF AGAINST THE TRAIN, LUTHOR FORCES IT TO A HALT!
THERE! I'VE STOPPED IT! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? GET GOING!
G-SURE!
WOW! WHAT STRENGTH!
AN EMPLOYEE IN A NEARBY SIGNAL TOWER BROADCASTS A FRANTIC ALARM...
BANDITS ROBBING THE ELKHART EXPRESS--!
OUT DRIVING WITH LOIS, CLARK HAD STOPPED AT A GASOLINE STATION....
HEY! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
CALLING ALL CARS! EXPRESS TRAIN BEING ROBBED NEAR CONNERS ROAD AND STATE STREET....
TO COVER THAT STORY!!
AS HE RACES IN PURSUIT, CLARK WHIPS INTO HIS SUPERMAN GARMENTS....
POOR LOIS! HERE'S WHERE SHE GETS SCOOPED AGAIN!
NEXT STOP-- THE SCENE OF THE HOLDUP!
5

THAT'S THE LAST OF THE LOOT!
THEN INTO THE CAR-- AND AWAY!
BUT BEFORE THE ESCAPING BANDIT-CAR HAS A CHANCE TO DRIVE MORE THAN A FEW FEET, A MUSCULAR FIGURE PLUMMETS DOWN BEFORE ITS PATH...
IN A HURRY?
THERE'S NO RUSH!
STICK AROUND!
LUTHOR!
OUT OF MY WAY! I WANT THAT CAR!
TRYING TO RUN OFF, EH?
--AND LET'S GET ACQUAINTED!
AWK!
IT'S-- SUPERMAN!
NOPE. I'M GOING TO PRESENT IT TO YOU!
GENEROUS OF YOU!
6

SOMERSAULTING BACK, SUPERMAN LIFTS THE CRIMINAL CAR ONCE MORE...
WANT TO PLAY, EH?
BACK INTO THE BATTLE SPRINGS THE MAN OF STEEL! THE TWO MIGHTY FIGHTERS STAND FACE TO FACE SLASHING, SMASHING AT EACH OTHER WITH THE CARS...
MY TURN!
NOW MINE!
...UNTIL MOMENTS LATER NOTHING REMAINS BUT THE RADIATORS...!
BAH! I'LL RESORT TO MY BARE HANDS!
WHY DIDN'T YOU IN THE FIRST PLACE?
LET GO!
WITH YOU IN OUR POWER, YOUR MUSCULAR BOY-FRIEND WILL BE HELPLESS!
PARDON ME A MOMENT. LOIS NEEDS ME!
WHA--?
HANDS OUTA TH' GROUND-- GRABBIN' US!!
7.

BURSTING OUT OF THE EARTH, SUPERMAN SUBJECTS LUTHOR'S THUGS TO A WELL-DESERVED CHASTISEMENT...
MUGG MEET MUGG!
OWWCH!
HEY!
YOU'RE UNHARMED!
THANKS TO YOU, YES! BUT LUTHOR HAS DUCKED OUT OF SIGHT!
IF YOU KEEP UP THIS SUPER CROOK-CATCHING, THE FORCE WILL HAVE TO RETIRE!
ALWAYS GLAD TO HELP THE POLICE!
THAT EVENING--CLARK STUDIES THE POWERSTONE...
LUTHOR WOULD GIVE ANYTHING TO GET HIS HANDS ON THIS. I WONDER WHAT STRANGE POWERS IT IMPARTS TO WHOEVER CAN MASTER IT?
AND IN HIS SECRET HIDE-AWAY, LUTHOR RAGES....
THIS MOST RECENT CLASH WITH THE MAN OF STEEL HAS CONVINCED ME THAT, WITHOUT THE POWERSTONE, I'M POWERLESS TO OPPOSE HIM. I'VE GOT TO SECURE THAT VALUABLE BAUBLE...AND PRONTO!
WHEN CLARK KENT REPORTS TO WORK THE NEXT MORNING, HE SIGHTS AN INTERESTING NOTICE IN THE PLANET'S FIRST EDITION....
("-CARLYLE ALLERTON...PROMINENT AUTHORITY ON ANCIENT STONES AND THEIR MYSTIC POWERS...VISITING HERE IN METROPOLIS. JUST THE MAN I WANT TO SEE!-")
LATER...
DON'T BE STARTLED, MR. ALLERTON. I JUST WISH YOU TO STUDY THIS STRANGE STONE AND REPORT YOUR FINDINGS.
LET ME SEE IT!
BUT NO SOONER DOES HE GRASP IT THAN "ALLERTON" THROWS OFF HIS DISGUISE...
HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE TRICKED BY SO SIMPLE A RUSE?
LUTHOR!
8

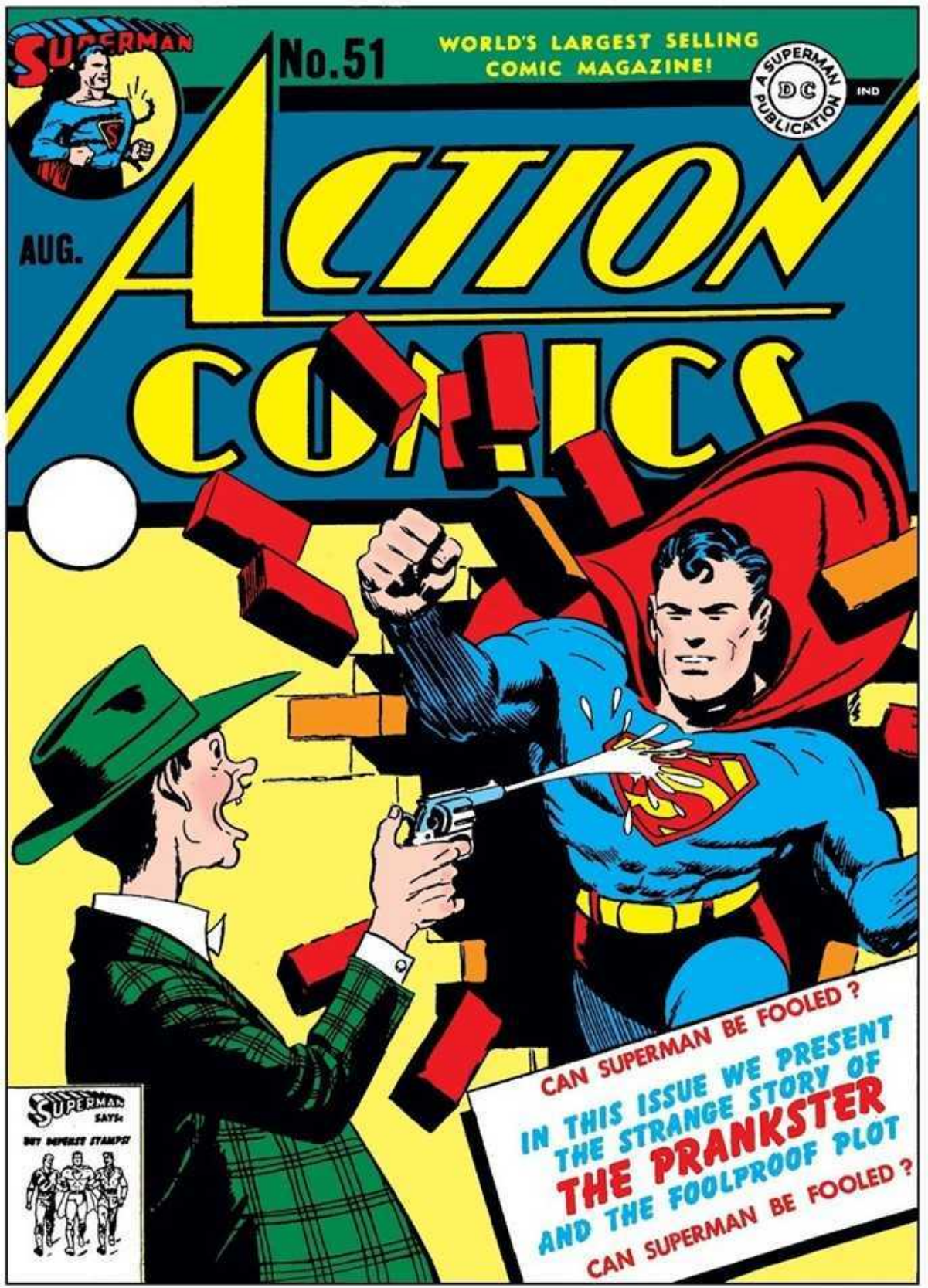
YOU MAY SOON REGRET THAT LITTLE TRICK OF YOURS!
I THINK NOT!
WHA--??! YOU--YOU'RE HOLDING ME OFF WITH ONE FINGER!
YOU SEE, THE POWERSTONE IMPARTS TO ME INFINITE POWER BEYOND THE REACH OF A MERE SUPER-HUMAN!
I CAN NOW MATCH EVERY ONE OF YOUR FEATS, SUPERMAN--AND MORE!
I MAY HAVE BEEN OUT-WITTED--BUT I'LL NOT BE OUTFOUGHT!
SWELLING TO ENORMOUS SIZE, LUTHOR RIPS A GREAT BRIDGE FROM ITS MOORINGS....
THINK SO?
HO! HO!--WHAT DO YOU SAY NOW, LITTLE MAN?
TO HIS AMAZEMENT, THE MAN OF STEEL FINDS HE CANNOT SUMMON UP ENOUGH STRENGTH TO THROW OFF THE TANGLED WRECKAGE...!
A GIANT HAND PLUCKS SUPERMAN FREE—!
AND AS THE COLOSSAL FIGURE OF LUTHOR SOARS UP AND AWAY...
WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ME??
DO YOU YET UNDERSTAND? THE POWERSTONE HAS ENABLED ME TO ROB YOU OF YOUR MIGHTY POWERS! I COULD CRUSH YOU BETWEEN THESE TWO FINGERS, BUT IT WILL BE MORE AMUSING TO WATCH YOU FUME HELPLESSLY WHILE I ACHIEVE MASTERY OF THE EARTH!
YOU EVIL FIEND!
IT'S TRUE! I CAN'T JUMP MORE THAN A FEW FEET! I'VE LOST MY SUPER-STRENGTH!!!
9

LUTHOR STRIKES! RENDERED OMNIPOTENT BY THE POWERSTONE HE SNATCHES MANY OF THE NATION'S GREATEST LEADERS...!
BUT, WHITE, I'M SURE LUTHOR IS LAUNCHING AN ONSLAUGHT OF TREMENDOUS SCOPE! WITH OUR LEADERS IN HIS POWER, HE'LL HAVE LITTLE TROUBLE CONQUERING THE NATION!
I'VE A DIFFERENT STORY I WANT YOU TO COVER RIGHT NOW. THE GOVERNMENT IS THINKING OF RE-OPENING THE OLD ABANDONED MOGUL FACTORY AS A MUNITIONS PLANT TO AID IN OUR WAR EFFORT. BUT THEIR INSPECTOR WHO WAS SENT DOWN TO LOOK IT OVER HAS VANISHED.
SO YOU WANT CLARK AND ME TO GIVE THE PLACE THE ONCE OVER! COME ON, CLARK!
LATER....
INSTEAD OF WASTING OUR TIME POKING THRU THIS ANCIENT EDIFICE, WE SHOULD BE ON LUTHOR'S TRAIL!
AND WHAT, MAY I ASK, WOULD YOU DO WITH LUTHOR ONCE YOU DID MANAGE TO CATCH UP WITH HIM?
AS THE TWO ENTER THE FACTORY, THEY ARE UNEXPECTEDLY SEIZED BY THUGS...
LET GO! WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?
THESE TWO SNOOPERS ARE THE DAILY PLANET REPORTERS WHO MANAGED TO GET INTO LUTHOR'S HAIR ON OTHER OCCASIONS!
GET RID OF THE GUY. WE'LL HOLD THE GIRL FOR QUESTIONING BY THE CHIEF!
THOSE MEN THERE--THEY'RE THE ONES LUTHOR KIDNAPPED!
BRIGHT BOY!
HEADS I TOSS HIM INTO THE PIT--TAILS, YOU DO!
NO! THAT WOULD BE COLD-BLOODED MURDER!
("-ORDINARILY, A FALL LIKE THAT WOULDN'T BOTHER ME AT ALL. BUT IN MY PRESENT WEAK CONDITION, IT MIGHT PROVE FATAL!-")
LUTHOR WILL PROBABLY KILL YOU THE MINUTE HE GETS HERE--YET YOU HAVE THE NERVE TO GRIN!
WHY SHOULDN'T I? SUPERMAN HAS ALWAYS MANAGED TO SHOW UP AND SAVE ME WHENEVER I WAS IN TROUBLE! I'M SURE HE WON'T FAIL ME NOW!
BUT THE MAN OF STEEL IS VERY MUCH IN NEED OF RESCUE HIMSELF--!
I WIN!
DOGGONIT! YOU ALWAYS DO!!
EEEE-EEE!
10

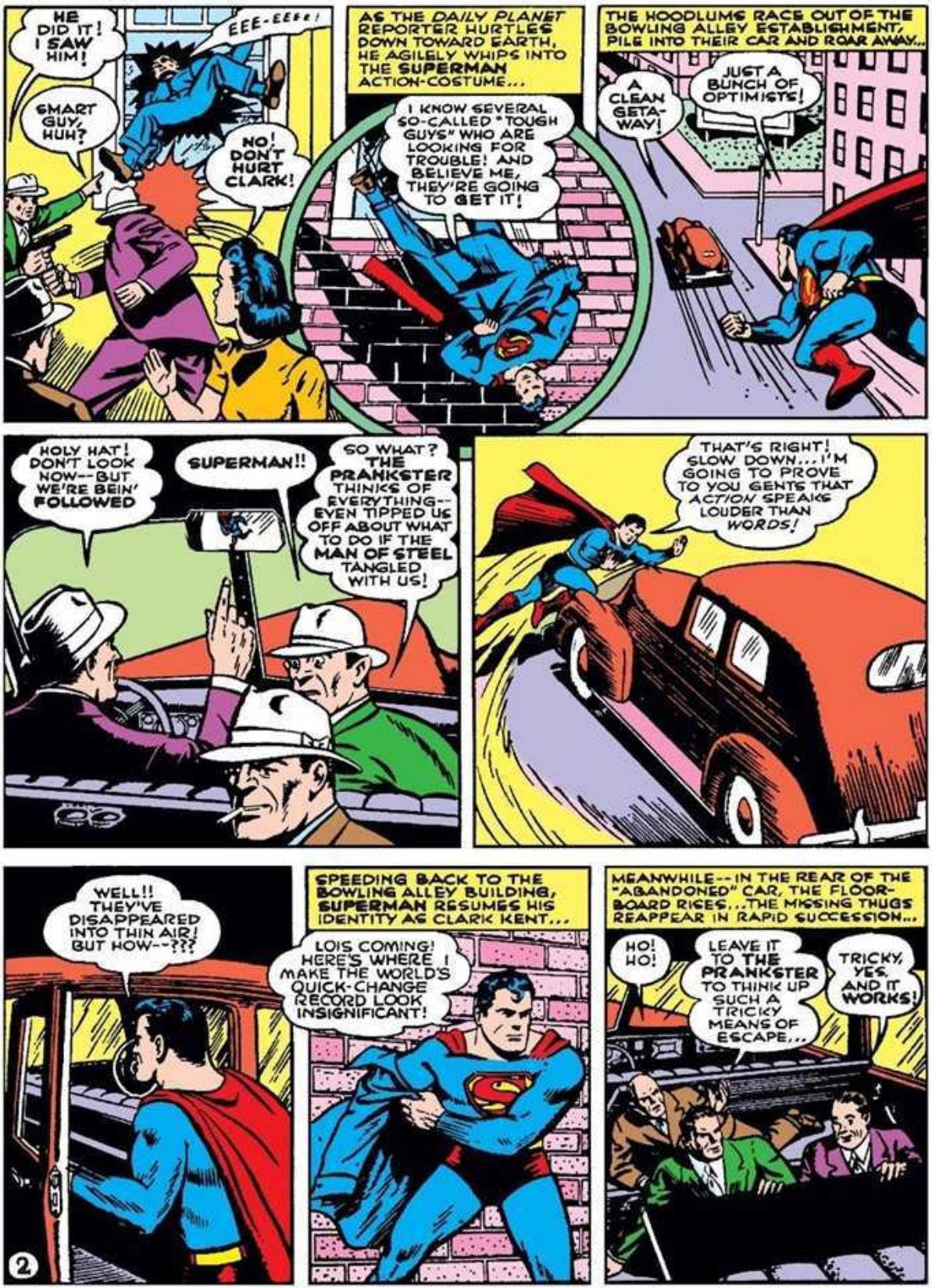
DOWN HURTLES CLARK...
ONLY ONE CHANCE-- AN OLD RUSTY HOOK ON THE PIT'S SIDE--
CLARK'S CAPTORS DEPART—AND IN SO DOING MISS SEEING A HAIR-BREADTH STUNT. WHIRLING UP HIS JACKET AS HE FALLS, CLARK MANAGES TO SNAG THE HOOK WITH IT....
MADE IT! BUT THE MATERIAL IS STARTING TO RIP!
KENT BEGINS A PRECARIOUS UPWARD TRIP...
ONE MISSTEP AND I'M DONE FOR!
REACHING THE PIT'S TOP SAFELY, HE SWITCHES TO A FAMOUS COSTUME...
SO I'M SUPERMAN AGAIN—BUT THIS TIME MINUS MY SUPER-STRENGTH! OH, WELL--AS THE SAYING GOES: "YOU CAN'T HAVE EVERYTHING!"
OH-MIGOSH--!
IT'S-- ULP!-- IT'S-- SUPERMAN!
IN THE FLESH! ("-HERE'S SOMETHING I DIDN'T COUNT ON! THE PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECT OF MY UNIFORM!-")
I KNEW YOU'D COME!
WHY DON'T YOU JUST RIP THE ROPES APART LIKE YOU ALWAYS DO?
I'LL HAVE YOU FREE IN ANOTHER MOMENT.
BUT AS THEY TURN TO GO...
IT SEEMS I'VE ARRIVED JUST IN TIME TO PREVENT YOUR ESCAPE!
LUTHOR!
HO! HO! WHAT CHANCE HAVE YOU AGAINST SUPERMAN?
11

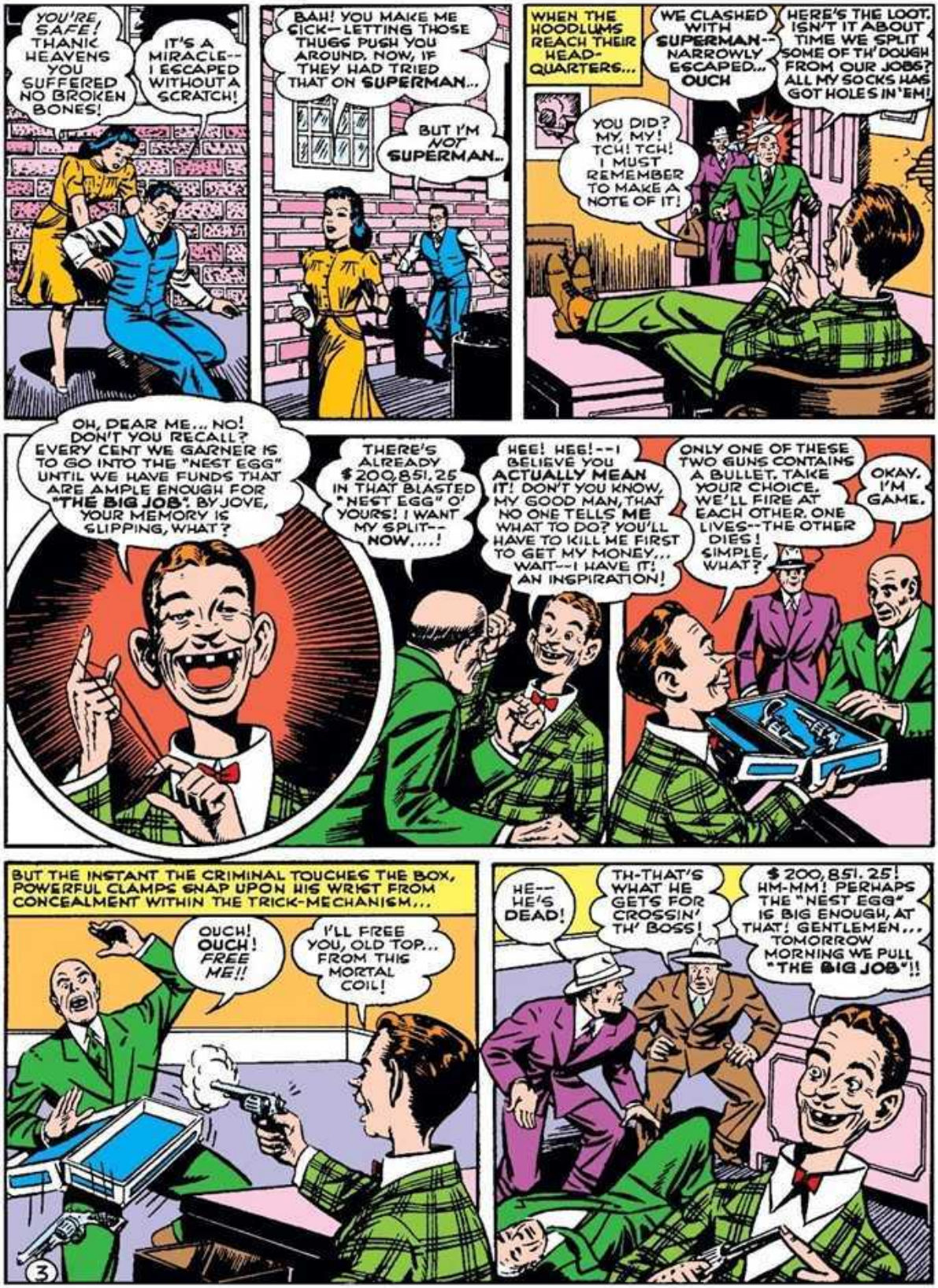
I'VE RENDERED HIM WEAK WITH THE AID OF THE POWERSTONE! WATCH ME TEAR HIM APART!
("-GOT TO THINK FAST!-") SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DUPLICATE ANY OF MY FEATS, EH? I KNOW ONE, LUTHOR, THAT YOU CAN'T EMULATE!
YOU LIE! THERE'S NO FEAT YOU EVER PULLED THAT I CAN'T DUPLICATE!
I SEEM TO RECALL ONCE HAVING RACED 'ROUND AND 'ROUND UP A ROOM'S WALL, OVER ITS CEILING, AND BACK AGAIN! CAN YOU DO THAT?
SIMPLE!
HE CAN DO IT! WHY DID YOU CHALLENGE HIM?
WAIT AND SEE!
SUPER-MAN--HELP-LESS--??
SUPERMAN PUTS HIS CLEVER SCHEME INTO EXECUTION...
NOW STOP AND RUN BACKWARDS WITHOUT PAUSING!!
HA! YOU THINK THAT'S HARD?
THE MAN OF TOMORROW'S STRATAGEM SUCCEEDS! AS LUTHOR ABRUPTLY REVERSES HIS FLIGHT, THE CHAIN ABOUT HIS THROAT WHIPS OFF... DOWN PLUMMETS THE POWERSTONE....
DEPRIVED OF THE POWER-STONE AND ITS POTENT POWERS, LUTHOR CRASHES DOWN TO THE LANDING. DES-PERATELY, HE CLUTCHES FOR THE PRECIOUS BAUBLE....
IT'S MINE!
NOW YOU HAVE IT--NOW YOU DON'T!
WISH ME LUCK, LOIS! IF LUTHOR GETS THE POWER-STONE, ITS CURTAINS FOR BOTH YOU AND ME--AND AMERICA, TOO!
AS THE MASTER FIEND RACES DOWN THE STAIRWAYS AFTER A MIGHTY PRIZE, SUPERMAN FEELS HIS STRENGTH SURGE BACK...
IT'S ON THE LANDING BELOW! STOP HIM, MEN!
ONE SIDE, SISSIES!
12

I GUESS YOU DIDN'T HEAR LOIS SAY YOU COULDN'T WIN!
YEEOW-W-W!!!
THINK YOU'VE BESTED ME, DO YOU? THIS FACTORY IS GOING UP IN FLAMES--AND ALL OF US WITH IT!
LET'S MOVE!
MOMENTS LATER... SUPERMAN EMERGES FROM THE FLAMING FACTORY WITH A LARGE HUMAN CARGO..
YOU'VE RESCUED SOME OF THE GREATEST MEN IN THE NATION!
AND I BROUGHT ALONG SOME OF LUTHOR'S THUGS FOR COMIC RELIEF! ALL LUTHOR ACCOMPLISHED WAS HIS OWN DOOM, AND I'LL HIDE THE POWERSTONE WHERE NO ONE WILL EVER FIND IT!
LATER--AFTER THE MAN OF TOMORROW DEPOSITS HIS BURDEN OUTSIDE A POLICE STATION...
THERE'S STILL SOME UNFINISHED BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO!
CHARGING INTO THE BRIDGE THAT LUTHOR HAS SMASHED, SUPERMAN RECONSTRUCTS IT IN A FEW MOMENTS..
AS GOOD AS NEW AGAIN!
I SUPPOSE YOU EXPECT ME TO BE SURPRISED THAT YOU SCOOPED ME, WELL, AFTER SEEING SUPERMAN WITHOUT HIS SUPER-STRENGTH, NOTHING CAN SURPRISE ME ANYMORE!
IF SUPERMAN HADN'T RESCUED ME FROM THAT FLAMING FACTORY, I'D NEVER HAVE BEEN ABLE TO WRITE THE ARTICLE!
THE END
13


SUPERMAN
No.51
WORLD'S LARGEST SELLING COMIC MAGAZINE!
A SUPERMAN PUBLICATION
DC
IND
AUG.
ACTION COMICS
CAN SUPERMAN BE FOOLED ?
IN THIS ISSUE WE PRESENT
THE STRANGE STORY OF
THE PRANKSTER
AND THE FOOLPROOF PLOT
CAN SUPERMAN BE FOOLED ?
SUPERMAN SAYS:
BUY DEFENSE STAMPS!

SUPERMAN
by
JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER
MEETING VILLAINS IS PART OF SUPERMAN'S DAILY ROUTINE... BUT NEVER HAS HE ENCOUNTERED AN OPPONENT AS UNUSUAL AS THAT CHERUBIC, CLOWNING COMEDY KING OF CRIME... THE PRANKSTER! JOIN THE MAN OF STEEL IN COMBATTING THIS MASTERMIND OF MALIGNANT MIRTH IN A TALE AS BAFFLING AS YOUR FIRST JIG-SAW PUZZLE... "THE CASE OF THE CRIMELESS CRIMES"!
BUY DEFENSE BONDS
ACCOMPANYING LOIS LANE TO A BOWLING ALLEY, CLARK KENT SIGHTS ARMED THUGS ROBBING THE ALLEY'S MANAGER...
OOPS! IT SLIPPED! ("-THAT OUGHT TO STOP THEM!-")
HEY!
OUCH!
HELP! THEY'RE ROBBING ME!
1


HE DID IT! I SAW HIM!
EEE-EEEE!
SMART GUY, HUH?
NO! DON'T HURT CLARK!
AS THE DAILY PLANET REPORTER HURTLES DOWN TOWARD EARTH, HE AGILELY WHIPS INTO THE SUPERMAN ACTION-COSTUME...
I KNOW SEVERAL SO-CALLED "TOUGH GUYS" WHO ARE LOOKING FOR TROUBLE! AND BELIEVE ME, THEY'RE GOING TO GET IT!
THE HOODLUMS RACE OUT OF THE BOWLING ALLEY ESTABLISHMENT, PILE INTO THEIR CAR AND ROAR AWAY...
A CLEAN GETA-WAY!
JUST A BUNCH OF OPTIMISTS!
HOLY HAT! DON'T LOOK NOW--BUT WE'RE BEIN' FOLLOWED
SUPERMAN!!
SO WHAT? THE PRANKSTER THINKS OF EVERYTHING--EVEN TIPPED US OFF ABOUT WHAT TO DO IF THE MAN OF STEEL TANGLED WITH US!
THAT'S RIGHT! SLOW DOWN... I'M GOING TO PROVE TO YOU GENTS THAT ACTION SPEAKS LOUDER THAN WORDS!
WELL!! THEY'VE DISAPPEARED INTO THIN AIR! BUT HOW--???
SPEEDING BACK TO THE BOWLING ALLEY BUILDING, SUPERMAN RESUMES HIS IDENTITY AS CLARK KENT...
LOIS COMING! HERE'S WHERE I MAKE THE WORLD'S QUICK-CHANGE RECORD LOOK INSIGNIFICANT!
MEANWHILE--IN THE REAR OF THE "ABANDONED" CAR, THE FLOOR-BOARD RICES...THE MISSING THUGS REAPPEAR IN RAPID SUCCESSION...
HO! HO!
LEAVE IT TO THE PRANKSTER TO THINK UP SUCH A TRICKY MEANS OF ESCAPE...
TRICKY, YES, AND IT WORKS!
2

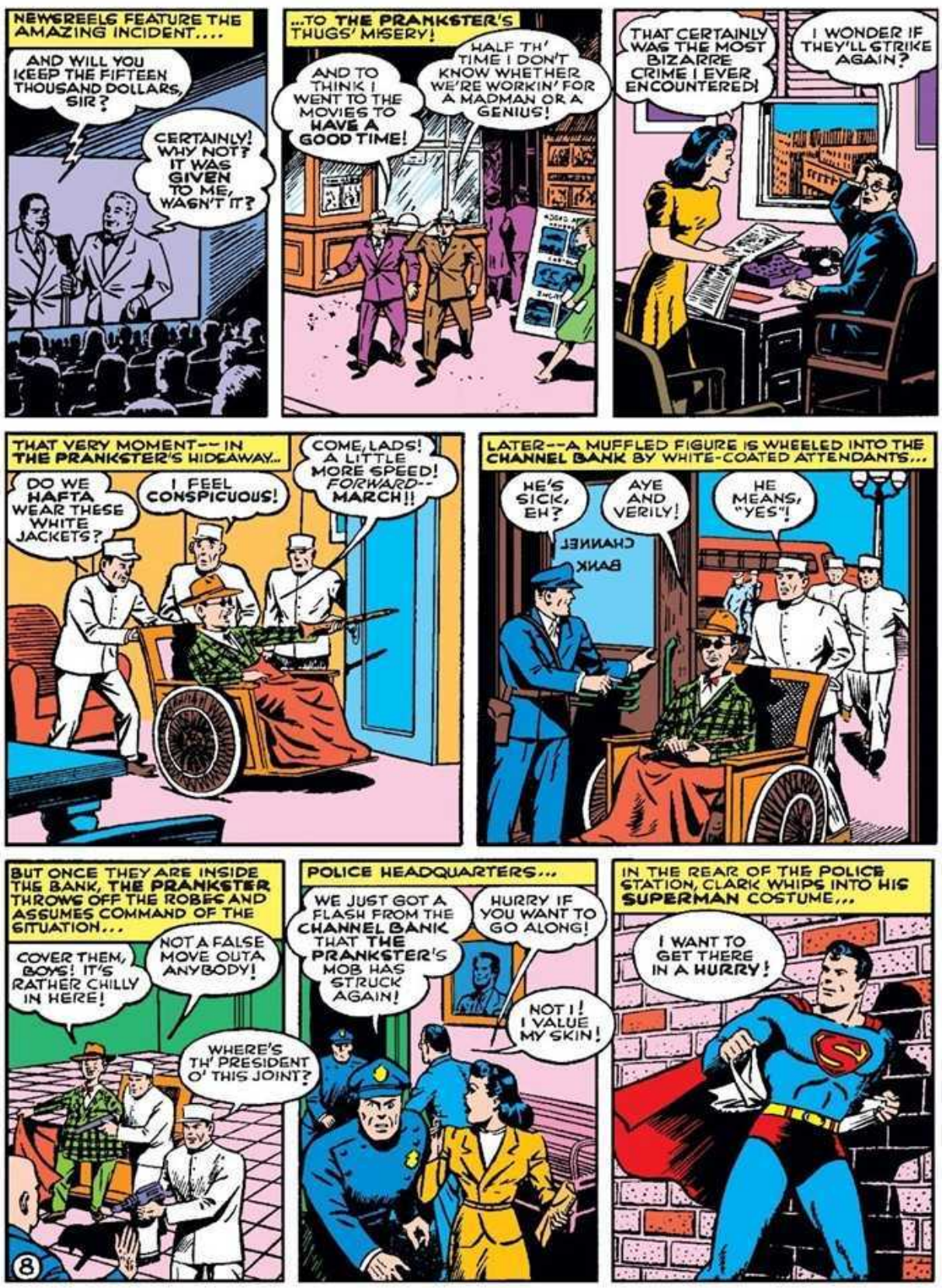

YOU'RE, SAFE! THANK HEAVENS YOU SUFFERED NO BROKEN BONES!
IT'S A MIRACLE-- I ESCAPED WITHOUT A SCRATCH!
BAH! YOU MAKE ME SICK--LETTING THOSE THUGS PUSH YOU AROUND. NOW, IF THEY HAD TRIED THAT ON SUPERMAN...
BUT I'M NOT SUPERMAN..
WHEN THE HOODLUMS REACH THEIR HEAD-QUARTERS...
WE CLASHED WITH SUPERMAN-- NARROWLY ESCAPED... OUCH
HERE'S THE LOOT. ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME WE SPLIT SOME OF TH' DOUGH FROM OUR JOBS? ALL MY SOCKS HAS GOT HOLES IN 'EM!
YOU DID? MY, MY! TCH! TCH! I MUST REMEMBER TO MAKE A NOTE OF IT!
OH, DEAR ME... NO! DON'T YOU RECALL? EVERY CENT WE GARNER IS TO GO INTO THE "NEST EGG" UNTIL WE HAVE FUNDS THAT ARE AMPLE ENOUGH FOR "THE BIG JOB". BY JOVE, YOUR MEMORY IS SLIPPING, WHAT?
THERE'S ALREADY $200,851.25 IN THAT BLASTED "NEST EGG" O' YOURS! I WANT MY SPLIT-- NOW....!
HEE! HEE!--I BELIEVE YOU ACTUALLY MEAN IT! DON'T YOU KNOW, MY GOOD MAN, THAT NO ONE TELLS ME WHAT TO DO? YOU'LL HAVE TO KILL ME FIRST TO GET MY MONEY... WAIT--I HAVE IT! AN INSPIRATION!
ONLY ONE OF THESE TWO GUNS CONTAINS A BULLET. TAKE YOUR CHOICE. WE'LL FIRE AT EACH OTHER. ONE LIVES--THE OTHER DIES! SIMPLE, WHAT?
OKAY. I'M GAME.
BUT THE INSTANT THE CRIMINAL TOUCHES THE BOX, POWERFUL CLAMPS SNAP UPON HIS WRIST FROM CONCEALMENT WITHIN THE TRICK-MECHANISM...
OUCH! OUCH! FREE ME!!
I'LL FREE YOU, OLD TOP... FROM THIS MORTAL COIL!
HE--- HE'S DEAD!
TH-THAT'S WHAT HE GETS FOR CROSSIN' TH' BOSS!
$200,851.25! HM-MM! PERHAPS THE "NEST EGG" IS BIG ENOUGH, AT THAT! GENTLEMEN... TOMORROW MORNING WE PULL "THE BIG JOB"!!
3

NEXT MORNING... A BUS DRAWS UP BEFORE THE CENTRAL CITY BANK, AND "MUSICIANS" EMERGE...
A BAND, EH?
SURE. MAYBE SOME DAY YOU'LL SEE US SWING. (*-FROM A ROPE!-*)
FOLLOW ME, BOYS!
ONCE INSIDE THE BANK, WEAPONS EMERGE FROM WITHIN THE CASES OF THE MOBSTER MUSICIANS...
WHAT IS THIS? A HOLD-UP?
WHAT HO! COLUMN RIGHT, LADS! DRAG OUT THE BANK PRESIDENT--BY HIS EARS, IF NEED BE!
THIS-- THIS IS AN OUT-RAGE!
YOU'RE PERSPIRING, MY GOOD FELLOW. PRAY BORROW MY HANDKERCHIEF!
BUT AS THE BANK PRESIDENT MOPS HIS BROW, THE BANK GUARDS AND CUSTOMERS BURST INTO LAUGHTER, DESPITE THEIR TERROR...
HUH?? BLACK!
A CHEMICAL COMPOUND INSIDE THE MATERIAL. FUNNY, EH? HA! HA!
YOU—YOU BLACKGUARD! STOP THIS FARCE! ROB US AND GET THIS HORSE-PLAY OVER WITH!
'PON MY SOUL! DID I HEAR ARIGHT? "ROB", HE SAID! --BLESS ME, SIR... WE HAVEN'T COME HERE TO ROB YOU! DEAR ME, NO!
THEN WHY ARE YOU HERE?
IN THE SPIRIT OF BENEVOLENCE, I ASSURE YOU. AS A MATTER OF FACT, I'VE BROUGHT YOU A GIFT WITHIN THE BLACK BAG.
♫ HERE'S A SPECIAL GI-IFT FOR YOU! HERE'S A SPECIAL GIFT FOR YOU! ♫
JOIN IN, EVERY-ONE!
THIS CAN'T REALLY BE HAPPENING! IT--IT MUST BE A NIGHTMARE!
PLEASE ACCEPT IT WITH OUR COMPLIMENTS HERE'S A SPECIAL GIFT FOR YOU-UUUU!
4

AM I TO UNDERSTAND THAT INSTEAD OF ROBBING THE BANK--YOU'RE LEAVING THE CONTENTS OF THAT BLACK BAG FOR ME?
OF A CERTAINTY! BUT FIRST PLEASE ESCORT US OUT TO OUR CHARIOT!
SHOOT HIM DOWN LIKE A DOG!
NO! DON'T KILL ME! I'VE A WIFE--NINE CHILDREN...!!!
NO PARKING
AS THE THUGS OBEY THEIR LEADER'S ORDERS, THE BEWILDERED BANK PRESIDENT IS BOMBARDED BY CORKS... STREAMS OF WATER... THE MACHINE-GUNS SHOOT FIREWORKS...
UP--UP--AND AWAY!!
AWK! SPUTTER! WHAT--??!
SHORTLY AFTERWARD, DETECTIVE SERGEANT CASEY ARRIVES AT THE BANK AND ASSUMES CONTROL OF THE SITUATION...
AND--AND THIS MADMAN STOLE NOTHING, BUT LEFT A SMALL BLACK BAG ON A COUNTER FOR ME!
SMALL BLACK BAG, EH? SOUNDS LIKE A BOMB TO ME!
IT IS A BOMB! I CAN HEAR IT TICKING! QUICK! GET SANDBAGS!!
TICK-TOCK! TICK-TOCK!
AT A NEARBY DESERTED LOT, THE BLACK BAG IS COVERED WITH SANDBAGS...
BACK, YOU FOOLS! THAT BOMB MAY EXPLODE ANY SECOND!
MEANWHILE--AT THE DAILY PLANET...
GET DOWN TO THE CENTRAL CITY BANK AND IN A HURRY! EXCITEMENT THERE!
STEP ON IT, CLARK!
RIGHT WITH YOU, LOIS!
5

WHEN CLARK AND LOIS JOIN CASEY...
KEEP BACK! NO TELLING WHEN THAT BOMB MAY GO OFF!
HOW DO YOU KNOW IF THERE'S A BOMB IN THE BAG IF YOU DIDN'T LOOK INSIDE?
WHO WOULD HAVE THE COLD NERVE TO LOOK INTO A BAG SUSPECTED OF HOLDING A BOMB?
I WOULD!
LOIS! COME BACK!
THE GIRL'S COMMITTING SUICIDE!
AT A WINDOW IN A NEARBY BUILDING...
GOODY! GOODY! SHE'S GOING TO LOOK!
WILL SHE GET A SURPRISE!
ABOUT TO SWITCH TO HIS SUPERMAN IDENTITY TO SAVE LOIS, CLARK'S X-RAY VISION DISCLOSES TO HIM WHAT IS WITHIN THE BAG, AND HE CHANGES HIS MIND...
("-WHY INTERFERE?-")
I DON'T LIKE IT, I TELL YOU! I DON'T LIKE IT!
IT TAKES LOIS BUT A MOMENT TO SHOVE THE SANDBAGS ASIDE AND RAISE THE BLACK BAG. BUT THEN SHE HESITATES...
SUPPOSE-- SUPPOSE THERE IS A BOMB IN IT?
OPEN IT! OPEN IT!!
SH-HH!
QUIET, BOSS, OR THEY'RE LIABLE TO HEAR YOU!
LOIS OPENS THE BAG--AND IN RESPONSE--AN EXPLOSION...!
6

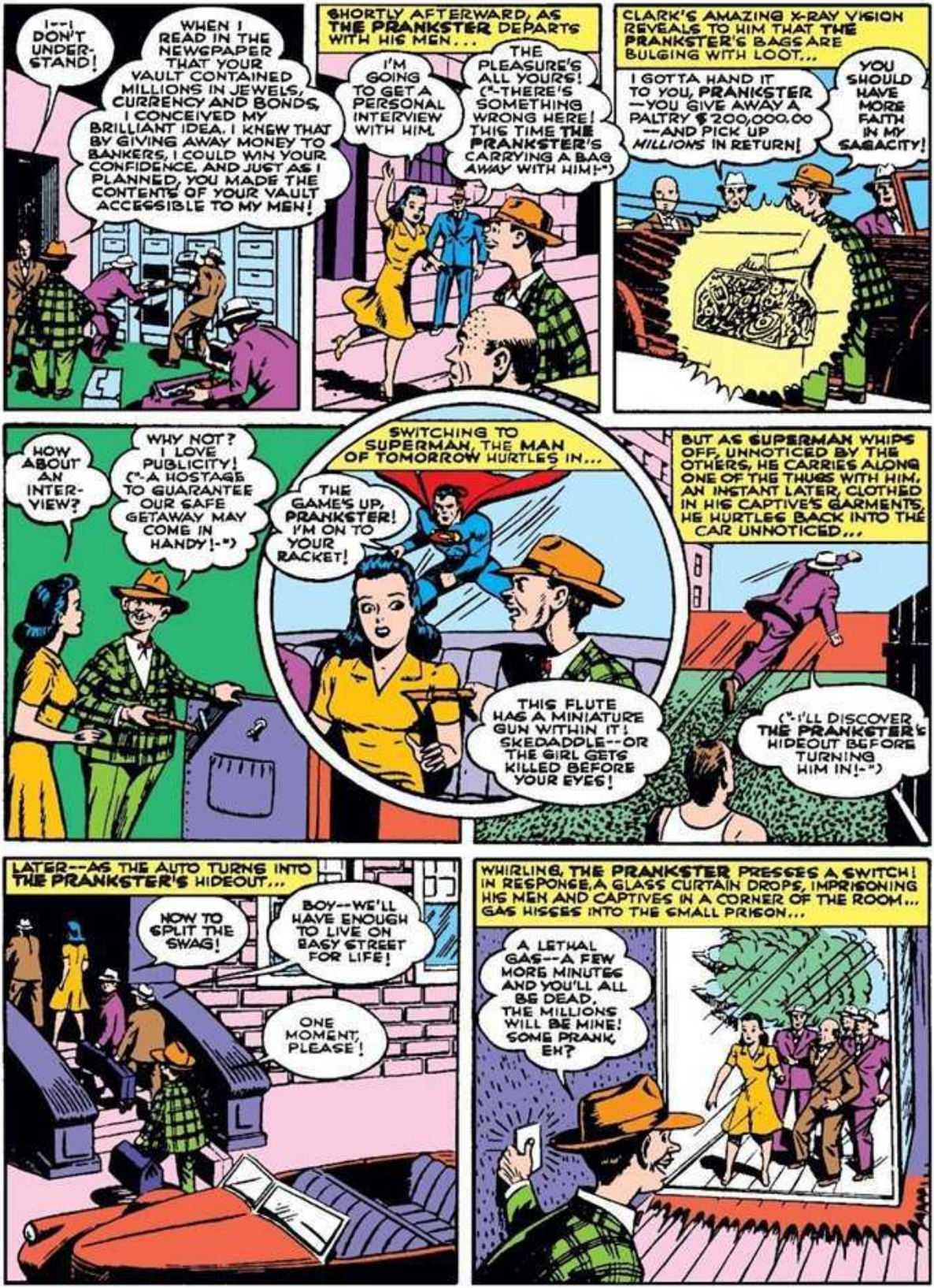
I--I CAN'T LOOK!
P-POOR LOIS!
BUT A SMALL NOISE-MAKING GADGET WITHIN THE BAG HAD CAUSED THE EXPLOSION AND NOISE...
LOOK-- MONEY!! THE BAG IS JAMMED WITH IT!
A CLOCK IN THE BAG MADE THOSE TICKING SOUNDS!
LET ME SEE THAT MONEY!
THIRTEEN--FOURTEEN-- FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS IN CURRENCY!
BUT WHY SHOULD ANYONE HOLD UP MY BANK TO GIVE ME MONEY?
REAL MONEY-- AND IT'S MINE-- MINE
IT MUST BE COUNTER-FEIT.
LET'S GO, CLARK!
WHAT A STORY!!
IMAGINE GIVING AWAY $15,000 OUTA OUR NEST EGG! THAT LEAVES US JUST $185,851.25!
AT THIS RATE, CRIME WON'T PAY!
OH-MERCY! I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO SEE YOUR FACES WHEN I GIVE AWAY DOUBLE THAT AMOUNT!
DAILY PLANET
HOLDUP MEN DONATE MONEY TO BANK
BY CLARK KENT AND LOIS LANE


NEWSREELS FEATURE THE AMAZING INCIDENT....
AND WILL YOU KEEP THE FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS, SIR?
CERTAINLY! WHY NOT? IT WAS GIVEN TO ME, WASN'T IT?
...TO THE PRANKSTER'S THUGS' MISERY!
AND TO THINK I WENT TO THE MOVIES TO HAVE A GOOD TIME!
HALF TH' TIME I DON'T KNOW WHETHER WE'RE WORKIN' FOR A MADMAN OR A GENIUS!
THAT CERTAINLY WAS THE MOST BIZARRE CRIME I EVER ENCOUNTERED!
I WONDER IF THEY'LL STRIKE AGAIN?
THAT VERY MOMENT-- IN THE PRANKSTER'S HIDEAWAY...
DO WE HAFTA WEAR THESE WHITE JACKETS?
I FEEL CONSPICUOUS!
COME, LADS! A LITTLE MORE SPEED! FORWARD-- MARCH!!
LATER--A MUFFLED FIGURE IS WHEELED INTO THE CHANNEL BANK BY WHITE-COATED ATTENDANTS...
HE'S SICK, EH?
AYE AND VERILY!
HE MEANS, "YES"!
CHANNEL BANK
BUT ONCE THEY ARE INSIDE THE BANK, THE PRANKSTER THROWS OFF THE ROBES AND ASSUMES COMMAND OF THE SITUATION...
COVER THEM, BOYS! IT'S RATHER CHILLY IN HERE!
NOT A FALSE MOVE OUTA ANYBODY!
WHERE'S TH' PRESIDENT O' THIS JOINT?
POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
WE JUST GOT A FLASH FROM THE CHANNEL BANK THAT THE PRANKSTER'S MOB HAS STRUCK AGAIN!
HURRY IF YOU WANT TO GO ALONG!
NOT I! I VALUE MY SKIN!
IN THE REAR OF THE POLICE STATION, CLARK WHIPS INTO HIS SUPERMAN COSTUME...
I WANT TO GET THERE IN A HURRY!
8

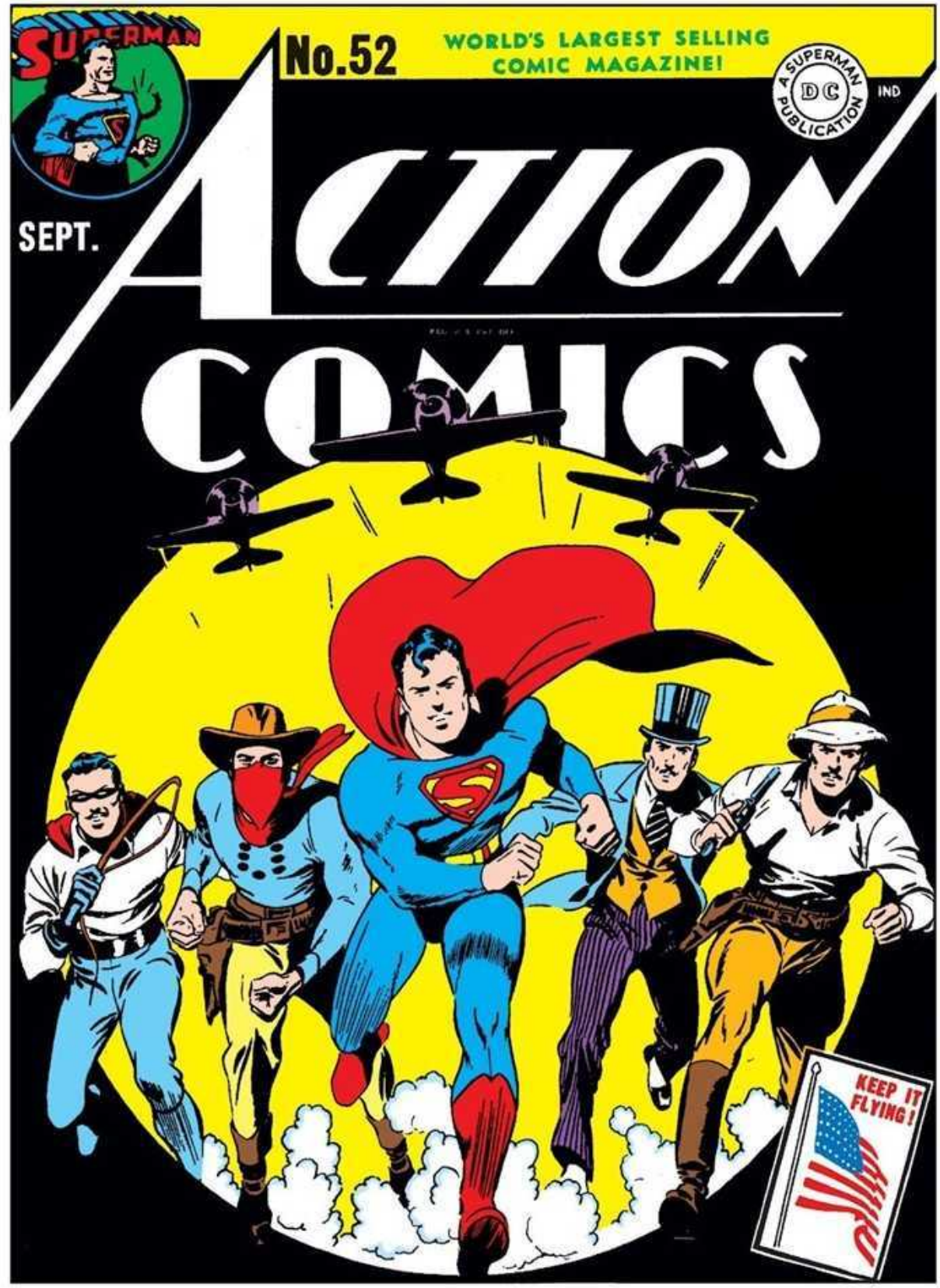
THE BANK PRESIDENT IS FORCED TO OPEN HIS OFFICE SAFE...
YOU MEAN--YOU ONLY CAME HERE TO LEAVE THAT PACKAGE FOR ME?
THAT, TO BE PRECISE, WAS THE ESSENCE OF THE CALL. TROT ALONG, BOYS! ANOTHER DAY'S DAFFY DEED IS DONE!
WELL, LOOK WHO'S COME TO PAY US HIS RESPECTS! LOOK YOUR BEST, LADS!
IT'S--IT'S SUPERMAN!
YOU LOOK TIRED, GENTLEMEN!
ULP!
HAVE A CHAIR!
OUCH!! WOT'LL WE DO, BOSS?
IT'S MY PERSONAL UNQUALIFIED OPINION THAT THE DOING IS UP TO SUPERMAN!
SUPERMAN BINDS THE PRANKSTER AND HIS MEN WITH A DRAPE-CORD IN THE TWINKLING OF AN EYELASH...
YOU CAPTURED THEM SINGLE-HANDED!
AND NOW THEY'RE ALL YOURS!
REVERTING TO CLARK KENT, THE MAN OF TOMORROW RETURNS TO THE BANK AS SERGEANT CASEY AND LOIS REACH IT...
THEY WERE CAPTURED BY SUPERMAN!
WOTTA SWELL BREAK!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE AFRAID TO COME!
A GENT CAN CHANGE HIS MIND, CAN'T HE?
JUMPING JUPITER! THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS!
WHAT'S THE IDEA?
IDEA? YOU MEAN ABOUT THE THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS? OH, YES--I GAVE IT TO HIM!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TRICKERY YOU'RE UP TO, BUT I'M GOING TO ARREST YOU FOR ROBBERY AND POSSESSION OF DEADLY WEAPONS!
ROBBERY? WE DIDN'T STEAL ANYTHING! AND AS FOR YOUR "DEADLY WEAPON" CHARGE...
I'LL DEMONSTRATE HOW DEADLY THE WEAPON IS--ON YOU!
YOU KILLER!
("-IF I SAVE CASEY'S LIFE, IT WILL BE AT THE COST OF REVEALING MY SUPERMAN IDENTITY!-")
9

BUT AS THE PRANKSTER PRESSES THE TRIGGER, A TOY PARACHUTE HURTLES FORTH FROM THE MUZZLE, THEN FLOATS GAILY DOWN...
PRETTY, ISN'T IT? BUT HARDLY DEADLY!
YOU INFERNAL FOOL! I'LL JAIL YOU IF IT'S ONLY ON A NUISANCE CHARGE!!
LATER
WHY DID YOU FORCIBLY ENTER THOSE BANKS AND LEAVE MONEY THERE?
JUST A CHILDISH WHIM, JUDGE. PLAYING COPS AND ROBBERS HAS ALWAYS INTRIGUED ME. I'M A WEALTHY MAN, AND IF I DESIRE TO GIVE MONEY AWAY TO BANKS, WHO IS THERE TO SAY NAY?
AN' I'M HERE TO SAY THAT THESE TWO BANK PRESIDENTS WILL PRESS NUISANCE CHARGES AGAINST YOU!
SURELY YOU TWO GENTLEMEN REALIZE I WAS PROMPTED ONLY BY A SPIRIT OF GOOD CLEAN FUN. MY GIFTS, AGGREGATING $45,000.00, SHOULD CONVINCE YOU I HAD NO EVIL INTENTIONS. BUT, OF COURSE, IF YOU BELIEVE OTHERWISE, I'LL HAVE TO ASK FOR MY MONEY BACK.
WE CAN KEEP THE MONEY, EH?--HEH! HEH! OF COURSE, I HAVE NO INTENTION OF PRESSING ANY CHARGE!
NOR I! NEVER LET IT BE SAID I CAN'T TAKE A JOKE! (--ESPECIALLY SUCH A PROFITABLE ONE!-")
WORD OF THE PRANKSTER'S CAPTIVITY HAS SPREAD LIKE WILDFIRE. AS THE MIRTHFUL MALCREANT DEPARTS FROM THE CITY JAIL, HE TOSSES BILLS TO THE WINDS...
HERE'S FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS --BUY YOURSELVES SOME LOLLYPOPS!
("-OUCH! THAT LEAVES ONLY $160,851.25 IN THE NEST-EGG!-")
LET'S GO BACK TO THE PLANET! THIS IS TOO MUCH FOR ME!
BUT THEY RECEIVE AN EVEN GREATER SHOCK WHEN THEY REACH THE NEWSPAPER OFFICE...
CAN YOU BEAT THE NERVE OF THAT GUY? HE SENT ENGRAVED INVITATIONS TO EVERY NEWSPAPER IN TOWN FOR PUBLICATION!
WHAT IS IT, CLARK?
THE PRANKSTER TAKES PLEASURE IN ANNOUNCING THAT HE AND HIS MEN ARE GOING TO VISIT THE SECOND FEDERAL BANK THIS AFTERNOON AT FIVE O'CLOCK SHARP! THE PUBLIC IS URGED TO ATTEND! FREE REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED!!
SHARPLY AT FIVE THAT AFTERNOON, THE PRANKSTER AND HIS MEN TRIUMPHANTLY DRIVE UP TO THE SECOND FEDERAL BANK THRU A CROWD OF LAUGHING, CHEERING SPECTATORS...
HOT DOGS--GET YOUR FREE HOT DOGS--COURTESY OF THE PRANKSTER!
YEAH, PRANKSTER!
SPEECH! SPEECH!
BR-RRR-BRT! LOOK OUT OR I'LL MOW YA DOWN!!
I'M GOIN' BALMY! I NEVER EXPECTED TO BE CHEERED WHILE CRACKIN' A BANK!
INSIDE THE BANK, THE PRESIDENT CONSULTS WITH THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS...
ARE YOU SERIOUS IN DESIRING TO PERMIT THIS--THIS LUNATIC INTO THE BANK?
WHY NOT? HE'S JUST A HARMLESS PLAYBOY. JUST THINK OF ALL THE PUBLICITY WE'LL GET! ("-AND THE DOUGH I MAY GET!-")
LAND O' GOSHEN! SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS!!
YOURS, MY DEAR CHAP--ALL YOURS!
THIS--THIS ALL MAKES ME DIZZY!
I DON'T BLAME YOU! I'M AFRAID I'VE LOST TRACK OF MY PERSPECTIVE, TOO!
AND AS THE PRANKSTER DRIVES OFF FROM THE SCENE OF HIS LATEST TRIUMPH, HE HURLS TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS AT THE MONEY-MAD MOB...
HO! HO! HO! LOOK AT THEM SCRAMBLE! AND WHAT IS MONEY, AFTER ALL, BUT MERE SCRAPS OF PAPER?
I COULD USE A COUPLE SCRAPS MYSELF!
10

LATER--AT THE PRANKSTER'S HIDEOUT....
BUT, BOSS--WE'VE ONLY GOT $70,851.25 LEFT IN THE "NEST EGG"! YOU'VE GIVEN AWAY $130,000.00 OF OUR HARD-EARNED MONEY! LET'S CALL IT QUITS, HUH?
HEAVENS, NO! LOOK AT ALL THE PUBLICITY WE'VE BEEN GETTING--AND THE LETTERS...WE'VE DOZENS OF LETTERS FROM BUSINESS MEN BEGGING TO BE ROBBED, SO THEY CAN SHARE IN THE PUBLICITY! I'VE EVEN GOT AN OFFER TO STAR IN THE MOVIES, BUT OF COURSE I'LL TURN IT DOWN UNLESS THEY LET ME CHOOSE MY OWN DIRECTOR, CAST AND PLAY THE ROLE OF ROMEO IN MY FAVORITE SHAKESPEAREAN DRAMA!
THAT EVENING--AS CLARK TAKES LOIS TO A NIGHTCLUB...
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN... I'VE A GREAT SURPRISE FOR YOU! THE PRANKSTER HAS KINDLY CONSENTED TO APPEAR HERE TONIGHT!
PREPARE YOURSELVES FOR THE THRILL OF THRILLS, YOU LUCKY PEOPLE! FOR TONIGHT YOU SHALL HEAR AND WITNESS A TREAT, GRANTED TO FEW MORTALS! I WILL PLAY MY FLUTE!
THE PATRONS OF THE NIGHTCLUB ARE SUBJECTED TO THE SOUREST NOTES THAT HAVE LEFT A TORTURED MUSICAL INSTRUMENT SINCE THE BEGINNING OF TIME...!
AT THE CLOSE OF HIS "CONCERT," THE PRANKSTER ACTS IN CUSTOMARY FASHION...
HERE IS TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS! AND WITH IT GOES AN INVITATION TO WITNESS MY VISIT TO THE METROPOLIS NATIONAL BANK TOMORROW!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
THIS IS DULL!
NEXT DAY
DO I HAVE TO GO? THE JUVENILE ANTICS OF THIS RICH MORON ARE TOO MUCH FOR MY SENSITIVE STOMACH!
NEVERTHELESS, HE'S NEWS!
WHITE'S RIGHT, CLARK, A STORY'S A STORY. LET'S GET GOING!
TRUE TO HIS WORD, THE PRANKSTER SHOWS UP AT THE METROPOLIS NATIONAL BANK....
$60,851.00 IN THIS BAG! AND YOU'VE GIVEN IT TO ME! BUT WHAT'S IN THAT OTHER BAG?
MORE MONEY FOR YOU! BUT I WANT TO HAVE THE PLEASURE OF PERSONALLY DEPOSITING IT IN YOUR BANK VAULT FOR YOU!
11
WHEN THE VAULT IS OPENED, THE BANK PRESIDENT RECEIVES THE OTHER BAG....
ONLY A QUARTER!
DISAPPOINTED, EH? YOU'LL BE EVEN MORE STARTLED TO LEARN THAT THIS WAS JUST A TRICK TO GET YOU TO OPEN YOUR VAULT!
HO! HO! HO! ANOTHER ONE OF YOUR JOKES, EH?
HO! HO! HO! ON THE CONTRARY, I'M DEADLY SERIOUS THIS TIME! HELP YOURSELVES, LADS. THERE ARE MILLIONS TO BE HAD!


I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND!
WHEN I READ IN THE NEWSPAPER THAT YOUR VAULT CONTAINED MILLIONS IN JEWELS, CURRENCY AND BONDS, I CONCEIVED MY BRILLIANT IDEA. I KNEW THAT BY GIVING AWAY MONEY TO BANKERS, I COULD WIN YOUR CONFIDENCE, AND JUST AS I PLANNED, YOU MADE THE CONTENTS OF YOUR VAULT ACCESSIBLE TO MY MEN!
SHORTLY AFTERWARD, AS THE PRANKSTER DEPARTS WITH HIS MEN...
I'M GOING TO GET A PERSONAL INTERVIEW WITH HIM.
THE PLEASURE'S ALL YOURS! (*-THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG HERE! THIS TIME THE PRANKSTER'S CARRYING A BAG AWAY WITH HIM!-*)
CLARK'S AMAZING X-RAY VISION REVEALS TO HIM THAT THE PRANKSTER'S BAGS ARE BULGING WITH LOOT...
I GOTTA HAND IT TO YOU, PRANKSTER —YOU GIVE AWAY A PALTRY $200,000.00 —AND PICK UP MILLIONS IN RETURN!
YOU SHOULD HAVE MORE FAITH IN MY SAGACITY!
HOW ABOUT AN INTERVIEW?
WHY NOT? I LOVE PUBLICITY! (*-A HOSTAGE TO GUARANTEE OUR SAFE GETAWAY MAY COME IN HANDY!-*)
SWITCHING TO SUPERMAN, THE MAN OF TOMORROW HURTLES IN...
THE GAME'S UP, PRANKSTER! I'M ON TO YOUR RACKET!
THIS FLUTE HAS A MINIATURE GUN WITHIN IT! SKEDADDLE--OR THE GIRL GETS KILLED BEFORE YOUR EYES!
BUT AS SUPERMAN WHIPS OFF, UNNOTICED BY THE OTHERS, HE CARRIES ALONG ONE OF THE THUGS WITH HIM. AN INSTANT LATER, CLOTHED IN HIS CAPTIVE'S GARMENTS, HE HURTLES BACK INTO THE CAR UNNOTICED...
(*-I'LL DISCOVER THE PRANKSTER'S HIDEOUT BEFORE TURNING HIM IN!-*)
LATER--AS THE AUTO TURNS INTO THE PRANKSTER'S HIDEOUT...
NOW TO SPLIT THE SWAG!
BOY--WE'LL HAVE ENOUGH TO LIVE ON EASY STREET FOR LIFE!
ONE MOMENT, PLEASE!
WHIRLING, THE PRANKSTER PRESSES A SWITCH! IN RESPONSE, A GLASS CURTAIN DROPS, IMPRISONING HIS MEN AND CAPTIVES IN A CORNER OF THE ROOM... GAS HISSES INTO THE SMALL PRISON...
A LETHAL GAS--A FEW MORE MINUTES AND YOU'LL ALL BE DEAD, THE MILLIONS WILL BE MINE! SOME PRANK, EH?

NO TIME TO WASTE! I'VE GOT TO LET FRESH AIR IN HERE!
SUPERMAN!
WE MAY YET LIVE!
WHY DON'T YOU LAUGH NOW?
I CERTAINLY WILL! TOODLE-OO!
A GREAT EXPLOSION--DOWN CRASHES PART OF THE WALL ON SUPERMAN--BUT HE GRIMLY EXTRICATES HIMSELF...
HE'S NOT FINISHED WITH ME YET!
SPRINGING IN, SUPERMAN SENDS THE PRANKSTER'S HIRELINGS INTO DREAMLAND...
NEXT TRIP I TAKE CARE OF YOUR BOSS!
YEE-EEOW!!
AND DON'T BE TOO GENTLE ABOUT IT!
THE MAN OF STEEL HURTLES THRU A SERIES OF PREARRANGED TRAPS AS HE RACES AFTER THE ROLLICKING ROGUE... FIRE... WHIRLING BLADES...
BUT AS HE NEARS THE PRANKSTER, AVALANCHING BOULDERS TOPPLE DOWN UPON THE MIRTHFUL MARAUDER, SCREENING HIM FROM VIEW...
THE END OF THE PRANKSTER!
YOU SAY HE DIED! BUT I WONDER..?
IF HE HAS SURVIVED, HE'LL FIND I OUTSMARTED HIM!
BUT THE PRANKSTER HAS ESCAPED DEATH BY TAKING REFUGE ON A LEDGE... WITH TREMBLING HANDS HE OPENS A BAG ONLY TO FIND, INSTEAD OF LOOT...
BLANK PAPER! HE MUST HAVE SUBSTITUTED IT FOR THE SWAG AT SUPER-SPEED WHILE I WAS OFF-GUARD!
SO SUPERMAN HAS THE LAST LAUGH--THIS TIME! BUT WE WILL CLASH AGAIN--SOON! AND PERHAPS NEXT TIME IT WILL BE THE PRANKSTER WHO WILL LAUGH LOUDEST--AND THE LONGEST!
THE END
13


SUPERMAN
No.52
WORLD'S LARGEST SELLING COMIC MAGAZINE!
A SUPERMAN PUBLICATION
DC
IND
SEPT.
ACTION COMICS
KEEP IT FLYING!

SUPERMAN
by
JERRY SIEGEL
and
JOE SHUSTER
THIS IS A TALE THAT COULD OCCUR ONLY AFTER THE WAR... MANY YEARS HENCE! IT'S UP TO ALL OF US TO SEE IT DOESN'T!
LAND OF THE FREE AND HOME OF THE BRAVE! THAT'S AMERICA! BUT ONCE THERE WAS A SWASHBUCKLING, POWER-MAD FIEND WHO TRIED TO CHANGE IT TO LAND OF THE ENSLAVED AND HOME OF THE CRAVEN! A GRASPING, RUTHLESS OPPORTUNIST WHO SOUGHT TO SEIZE THE RICHES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR HIS OWN! AND OF THE 130 MILLION CITIZENS THRU-OUT THE LAND, THERE WAS NONE TO OPPOSE HIM--EXCEPT ONE SOLITARY INDIVIDUAL. BUT THAT ONE WAS SUFFICIENT--FOR IT WAS NONE OTHER THAN THAT A-1 MUSCLE MARVEL OF ALL TIME,,,THE INCREDIBLE MAN OF TOMORROW! READ HOW SUPER-STRENGTH OVERCOMES MONSTROUS EVIL WHEN SUPERMAN CLASHES WITH..... "THE EMPEROR OF AMERICA"!

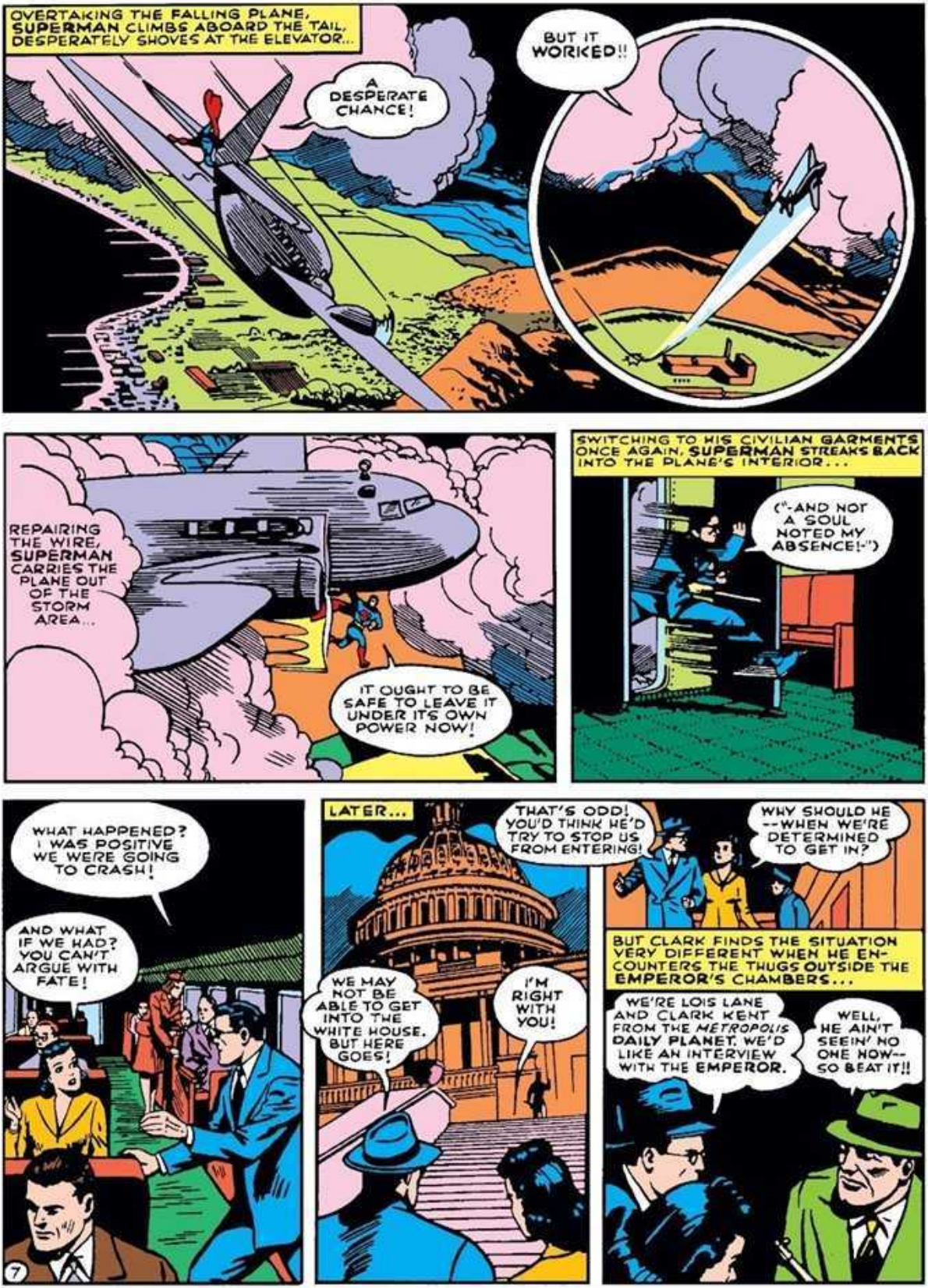
SIGHTING AN IMPENDING ACCIDENT, CLARK KENT LEAPS INTO AN ALLEY AND WHIPS OFF HIS OUTER GARMENTS...
THAT PEDESTRIAN--MAKING NO EFFORT TO SAVE HIMSELF--THIS CALLS FOR--SUPERMAN!
HOW CAN YOU BE SO CALM? DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT IF I HADN'T GONE INTO ACTION YOU'D BE A DEAD MAN?
COULDN'T YOU HAVE FOUND A SAFER PLACE TO STROLL?
IF THE AUTO HAD HIT ME--IT WOULD HAVE HIT ME. I SEE NO REASON TO GET WORKED UP.
SWITCHING BACK TO HIS IDENTITY AS THE NEWSPAPER REPORTER, CLARK ENTERS THE DAILY PLANET BUILDING SHORTLY AFTER...
AFTER OUR ARGUMENT LAST NIGHT, LOIS SWORE SHE'D NEVER SPEAK TO ME AGAIN. PERHAPS A BOX OF CANDY WOULD HELP CHANGE HER MIND.
STOP THAT MAN! HE'S STOLEN YOUR MERCHANDISE!
OH, LET HIM GO. IT'S NOT WORTH THE TROUBLE OF CHASING HIM.
A BOX OF CANDY--FOR YOU, LOIS. I...ER...I WAS HOPING FOR A DATE TONIGHT.
CERTAINLY, CLARK. AND AS FOR OUR ARGUMENT LAST NIGHT--FORGET IT!
I DON'T GET IT! A MAN DOESN'T TRY TO AVOID BEING HIT BY A STREAKING AUTO--A CLERK REFUSES TO PURSUE A THIEF--LOIS FORGIVES ME AT ONCE! STRANGE!
BUT IS IT A COINCIDENCE?
2

WASHINGTON, D. C.--A WEIRD AUTOGIRO ALIGHTS ON THE WHITE HOUSE LAWN...
I STILL THINK WE CAN'T GET AWAY WITH IT!
IMAGINE! JUST THE FEW OF US TAKING OVER THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES!
CORRECTION. ONLY ONE PERSON IS TAKING OVER. AND THAT IS I, THE EMPEROR OF AMERICA!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
INSIDE. AND NO ONE WILL STOP ME!
SHALL I LET HIM HAVE IT?
NIX. THE EMPEROR SAYS NO SHOOTING UNLESS HE GIVES THE SIGNAL.
YOU SEE-- NO ONE DARES DEFY AN EMPEROR!
YOU'RE OKAY, EMP'!
IN FACT, YOU'RE TERRIFIC!
THE BRASH INTRUDERS STRIDE INTO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES...
YOU'LL HAVE TO GET OUT. THE UNITED STATES DOESN'T NEED A PRESIDENT ANY LONGER, NOW THAT I'M ITS EMPEROR!
OUCH! I DON'T LIKE THIS! THE BOSS IS GETTIN' TOO HIGH-HANDED!
WE'LL PROBABLY GET LIFE FER THIS!
CERTAINLY. I'LL BE GLAD TO VACATE. BUT IT MAY TAKE ME A FEW MINUTES TO GATHER UP MY PAPERS.
THEN MAKE IT SNAPPY!
CHEE! THE PRESIDENT IS DOIN' JUST LIKE THE BOSS TELLS HIM!
NOW LOOK HERE, YOU MEN! I'M THE EMPEROR OF AMERICA NOW, SEE, AND I EXPECT THE PROPER RESPECT. FROM NOW ON, DON'T LET ME CATCH ANY OF YOU REFERRIN' TO ME AS "THE BOSS" OR "THE CHIEF" OR AS "THE BIG SHOT"! I'M THE EMPEROR OF AMERICA, UNDERSTAND?
A FEW SHARP ORDERS OVER THE TELEPHONE AND IN A FEW MINUTES THE SELF-DECLARED EMPEROR OF AMERICA IS ENSCONCED TO HIS LIKING...
A LITTLE TO THE RIGHT. AH. THAT'S BETTER. NOW I CAN GET A SATISFACTORY VIEW OF MYSELF!
GOSH! HE'S REALLY BEGINNIN' TO LOOK LIKE A EMPEROR, NOW!
SOON AFTER-- THE ROYAL ROOM IS THRONGED WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRESS AND OF RADIO...
IN RESPONSE TO THE PLEADING AND CAJOLING OF OVER A HUNDRED MILLION AMERICANS, I HAVE RELUCTANTLY AGREED TO ASSUME THE OFFICE OF EMPEROR OF AMERICA!
HAIL THE EMPEROR! LONG LIVE THE EMPEROR!
3

ANOTHER NEWS FLASH ON THE EMPEROR OF AMERICA! HE WILL ADDRESS THE NATION VIA THE RADIO IN TWO MINUTES!
THIS MUST BE A HOAX!
WE'LL KNOW SOON ENOUGH, JIMMY-- TURN ON THE RADIO!
I AM YOUR NEW LEADER! YOU WILL OBEY MY EVERY COMMAND WITHOUT QUESTION! YOU WILL LIVE ONLY TO SERVE ME! FOR I AM YOUR EMPEROR!
I--I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
WHY NOT? THIS IS WONDERFUL!
AN' THERE'S ANOTHER THING I WANT UNDERSTOOD! THIS COUNTRY AND EVERYTHING IN IT BELONGS TO ME! GET IT?
THIS IS THE BIGGEST NEWS STORY OF THE CENTURY! GET TO WASHINGTON, BOTH OF YOU--AND RUSH ALL THE DETAILS YOU CAN ON OUR NEW MIGHTY LEADER!
BUT SURELY YOU DON'T APPROVE OF HIM...
HUSH, CLARK!
WHAT'S HAPPENED TO EVERYONE? HAVE THEY GONE INSANE? I HAVEN'T HEARD ANYONE SAY A SINGLE WORD AGAINST THIS RUTHLESS OPPORTUNIST WHO HAS SEIZED POWER!
AND LATER-- AS THEY BOARD THE PLANE FOR WASHINGTON, D. C.--
HO! HO! HO! BLESS ME, IF THIS ISN'T TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE! ALL I'VE GOT TO DO IS ASK FOR IT AND THE TREASURES OF THE NATION ARE MINE!
WE'D BETTER PUT SOME OF IT AWAY IN TH' PLANE --JUST IN CASE!
GEE! ALL TH' MONEY IN TH' WORLD!
4

BUT AS THE PLANE TRANSPORTING CLARK AND LOIS WINGS TOWARD WASHINGTON, D.C. -- THE SKY DARKENS-- RAIN CASCADES-- LIGHTNING FLASHES—WINDS BUFFET...
THE WEATHER'S GETTING WORSE ALL THE TIME! WHY DOESN'T THE PILOT ATTEMPT TO LAND AT A NEARBY AIRPORT RATHER THAN CONTINUE TOWARD THE DANGEROUS MOUNTAINS AHEAD?
BUT WE CAN'T DO THAT! THIS FLIGHT IS SCHEDULED AS NON-STOP AND ANY DEPARTURE FROM THE FORECAST PROCEDURE IS UNTHINKABLE!
("-I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS!-") EXCUSE ME, LOIS, WHILE I GO WASH UP.
DON'T BE GONE LONG.
SWIFTER THAN THE EYE CAN FOLLOW, THE ENTRANCE TO THE CABIN IS FORCED OPEN AGAINST THE POWERFUL WINDS....
DOWN--DOWN PLUMMETS A SMALL FIGURE TOWARD A MOUNTAIN-TOP FAR BELOW...
THE INSTANT HE ALIGHTS, CLARK CHANGES TO THE WORLD-FAMOUS ACTION COSTUME OF—SUPERMAN!
5

THE MAN OF STEEL'S INCREDIBLY POWERFUL MUSCLES LAUNCH HIM UNERRINGLY TOWARD THE MENACED PLANE. BUT AS HE NEARS HIS OBJECTIVE...
LIGHTNING --ABOUT TO STRIKE THE PLANE...!
IN FLASHES THE MIGHTY MAN OF TOMORROW, RECEIVING THE FULL FORCE OF THE LIGHTNING-BOLT HIMSELF...
GOOD THING I'M NOT TICKLISH!
THE CRACKUP-- IMMINENT...!
HERE'S WHERE I IMPROVE ON NATURE!
QUIVERING VIOLENTLY BEFORE THE COLOSSAL POWER OF SUPERMAN'S STRENGTH--THE TWO CLOSE-SET MOUNTAIN PEAKS MOVE ASIDE...AND THE MENACED PLANE NARROWLY SLIPS THRU THE WIDENED BREACH--SAFE!
BUT SUDDENLY AN ELEVATOR CONTROL CABLE SNAPS...DOWN SWOOPS THE PLANE TOWARD THE ROCKY TERRAIN...
SECONDS... PRECIOUS SECONDS SLIPPING BY! AND IF I DON'T REACH THE PLANE SOON ENOUGH...!
6


OVERTAKING THE FALLING PLANE, SUPERMAN CLIMBS ABOARD THE TAIL, DESPERATELY SHOVES AT THE ELEVATOR...
A DESPERATE CHANCE!
BUT IT WORKED!!
REPAIRING THE WIRE, SUPERMAN CARRIES THE PLANE OUT OF THE STORM AREA...
IT OUGHT TO BE SAFE TO LEAVE IT UNDER ITS OWN POWER NOW!
SWITCHING TO HIS CIVILIAN GARMENTS ONCE AGAIN, SUPERMAN STREAKS BACK INTO THE PLANE'S INTERIOR...
("-AND NOT A SOUL NOTED MY ABSENCE!-")
WHAT HAPPENED? I WAS POSITIVE WE WERE GOING TO CRASH!
AND WHAT IF WE HAD? YOU CAN'T ARGUE WITH FATE!
LATER...
THAT'S ODD! YOU'D THINK HE'D TRY TO STOP US FROM ENTERING!
WHY SHOULD HE --WHEN WE'RE DETERMINED TO GET IN?
WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GET INTO THE WHITE HOUSE. BUT HERE GOES!
I'M RIGHT WITH YOU!
BUT CLARK FINDS THE SITUATION VERY DIFFERENT WHEN HE ENCOUNTERS THE THUGS OUTSIDE THE EMPEROR'S CHAMBERS...
WE'RE LOIS LANE AND CLARK KENT FROM THE METROPOLIS DAILY PLANET. WE'D LIKE AN INTERVIEW WITH THE EMPEROR.
WELL, HE AIN'T SEEIN' NO ONE NOW-- SO BEAT IT!!
7

I SHOULD HAVE TAKEN A SOCK AT THEM!
HOW CAN YOU EVEN THINK OF SUCH A THING!
FUNNY THING JUST HAPPENED, EMPEROR. A REPORTER NAMED CLARK KENT TRIED TO GET TOUGH WITH US WHEN WE TOLD HIM HE COULDN'T SEE YOU.
HE RESISTED, EH? HM-MM. I DON'T LIKE THAT!
YOU HEAR ME, WHITE-- I WANT YOU TO PRINT WHAT I'VE TOLD YOU WITHOUT CHANGING A SINGLE WORD!
VERY WELL. BUT I DON'T THINK IT'S WISE!
LATE THAT EVENING...
A COPY OF THE DAILY PLANET WAS JUST FLOWN IN, YOUR HIGHNESS.
AN' THERE'S A STORY IN IT BY THAT KENT REPORTER-- BOY, DOES HE PAN YOU!
GET HIM! AND THE GIRL ACCOMPLICE, TOO!
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST FOR TREASON!
NEXT-- THE GIRL!
YOU DARE PRINT THESE LIES ABOUT ME?
LIES? ALL I SAID WAS THAT YOU'RE A RUTHLESS, THIEVING REPROBATE--AND THAT'S THE TRUTH!
CLARK! HOW CAN YOU SAY SUCH THINGS?
PLANET TYRANT!
YOU'LL DIE FOR THAT-- AND YOU'LL DIE LEGAL!
GET ME THE SUPREME COURT!
THE SPECIAL SESSION OF SUPREME COURT IS NOW OPEN!
LATER-- RUMPLED, YAWNING, ROUSED FROM THEIR BEDS, THE SLIGHTLY DAZED BUT STILL DIGNIFIED MEMBERS OF THE SUPREME COURT CONVENE...
I CHARGE THE PRISONER WITH TREASON AND DEMAND THE DEATH PENALTY!
8

YES...I WAS PRESENT WHEN CLARK TELEPHONED THE DEFAMATORY STORY TO WHITE. I TRIED TO REASON WITH HIM...
CAN YOU BEAT IT? FIFTEEN MINUTES HAVE PASSED ALREADY AND THE TRIAL HAS HARDLY EVEN BEGUN! AT THIS RATE, IT WILL TAKE DAYS TO REACH A VERDICT, AND I HAVEN'T THE TIME TO WASTE!
STOP! I'VE AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT TO MAKE! I, THE EMPEROR OF AMERICA, HEREBY GIVE YOU NINE OLD MEN YOUR NOTICE--YOUR PLACES WILL BE TAKEN BY MY ASSOCIATES!
Y' MEAN, WE ARE GONNA BE TH' SUPREME COURT?
BOY-- ARE WE GETTIN' UP IN TH' WORLD!
DON'T BOTHER TO SEAT YOURSELVES, BOYS-- JUST GIVE ME THE VERDICT. AND IT BETTER BE THE RIGHT ONE.
GIVE HIM THE VERDICT, MAX.
GUILTY, NATURALLY!
I PROTEST AGAINST THIS HIGH-HANDED UNDEMOCRATIC PROCEDURE!
I, MYSELF, WILL ANNOUNCE THE SENTENCE!
YOU WILL BE STOOD UP AGAINST A WALL AND EXECUTED BY A FIRING SQUAD-- AT ONCE!
I PROTEST! (-IF THEY SHOOT AT ME AND I'M UNHARMED IT WILL REVEAL MY TRUE IDENTITY!-")
("-THE MEEK WAY WITH WHICH EVERYONE FOLLOWS THE EMPEROR'S ORDERS-- THE STRANGE HELMETS HE AND HIS MEN WEAR... IS THERE A CONNECTION?")
ULP! HEY--!
I WANT THAT HELMET!
9

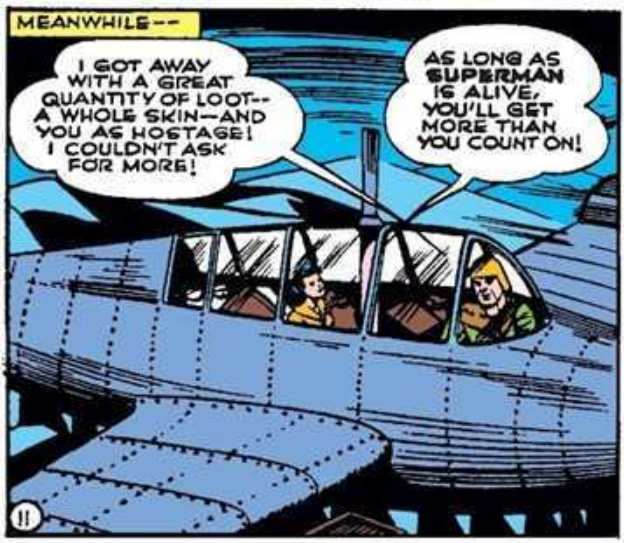
HURRIEDLY HANDING LOIS THE THUG'S HELMET, CLARK TELLS HER TO DON IT. AND AS SHE OBEYS, WITHOUT HESITATION...
CLARK! I--I'M JUST BEGINNING TO REALIZE WHAT'S OCCURRED! OUR NATION SEIZED BY A TYRANT--AND NO ONE DOING ANYTHING ABOUT IT!
EXCEPT US! (*-IT'S AS I THOUGHT! THE HELMET PROTECTS THE WEARER AGAINST THE COMPULSION TO OFFER NO RESISTANCE. AND I AM IMMUNE TO IT!-*)
TAKE THEM AWAY! EXECUTE BOTH OF THEM!
GET MOVIN'!
I'M SORRY I GOT YOU INVOLVED IN THIS!
UNEXPECTEDLY TEARING FREE, CLARK RACES OFF FLEETLY...
HE'S GETTING AWAY!
WE KEEP MISSING HIM!
(*-THE BULLETS ARE BOUNCING OFF ME AND THEY DON'T REALIZE IT!-*)
RACING OUT OF VIEW, CLARK KENT CHANGES TO THE DYNAMIC IDENTITY OF....
SUPERMAN--IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO TAKE OVER!
READY, AIM--!
FIRE!
EXTINGUISHING FIRES IS MY SPECIALTY!
SUPERMAN--ATTACKING YOUR EMPEROR! CALL OUT THE ARMY!
SUMMONED BY THE TERRIFIED EMPEROR, A HORDE OF SOLDIERS CHARGES TO THE ATTACK...
HUNDREDS TO ONE! JUST THE KIND OF ODDS I LIKE! AND YET, THOSE ARE AMERICAN SOLDIERS, SO I'LL HAVE TO BE CAREFUL NOT TO HARM THEM!
10

CUT IT OUT, BOYS! THE LAST THING I WANT TO DO IS HARM ANY OF YOU!
HE WANTS US TO STOP!
IN AMAZING RESPONSE TO THE MAN OF STEEL'S REQUEST, THE SOLDIERS, TO A MAN, RELEASE HIM..
THAT SOUNDS REASONABLE!
I'VE GOT IT! THEY'VE NO WILL OF THEIR OWN-- ALL THEY CAN DO IS OBEY ORDERS! HM-MM! MAYBE I CAN PUT THAT TO MY OWN USE!
GET HIM!
NO! NO!!

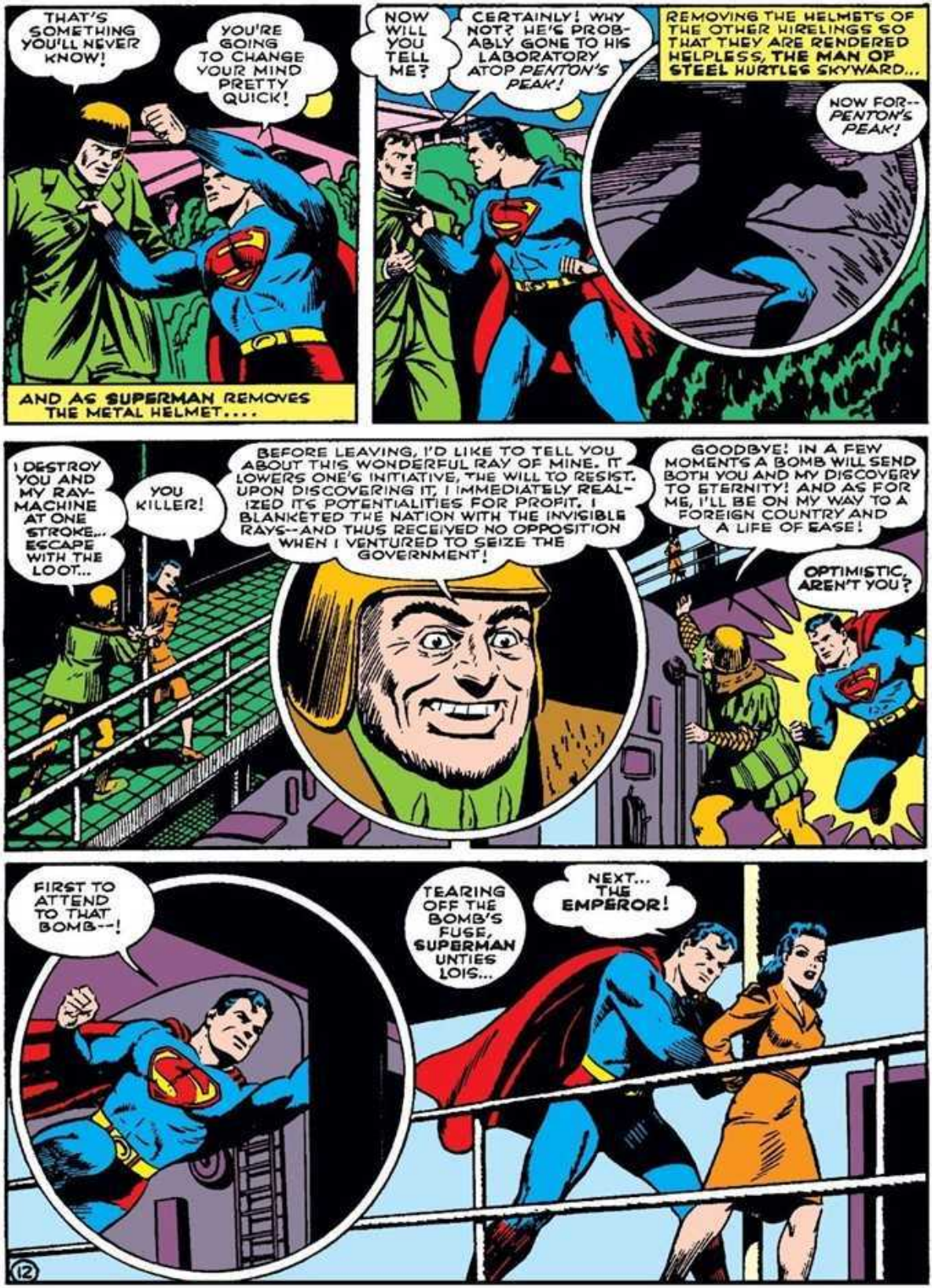
NO, NOT ME— HIM! KILL HIM!
CALL THEM OFF!

I'LL--!
NO, YOU WON'T! ONCE I GET THAT HELMET OFF, YOU'LL DO AS I SAY!

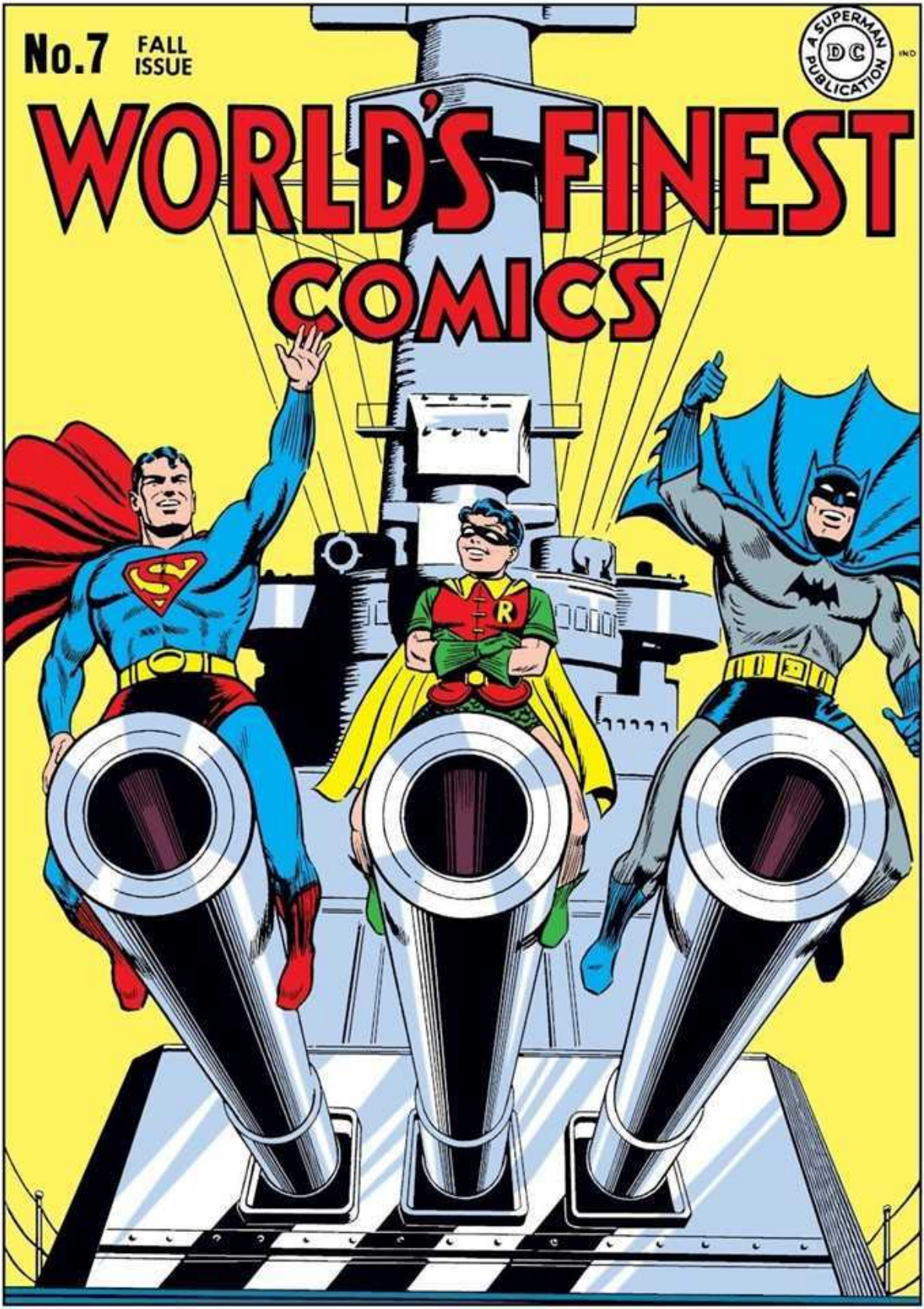
ONCE AGAIN ENGULFED BY THE SOLDIERS, SUPERMAN COMMANDS TO BE RELEASED...
LOIS AND THE EMPEROR-- GONE!


MEANWHILE--
I GOT AWAY WITH A GREAT QUANTITY OF LOOT-- A WHOLE SKIN—AND YOU AS HOSTAGE! I COULDN'T ASK FOR MORE!
AS LONG AS SUPERMAN IS ALIVE, YOU'LL GET MORE THAN YOU COUNT ON!
11

SNATCHING UP ONE OF THE THUGS WHO HAD BEEN RENDERED UNCONSCIOUS BY HIS FLASHING FISTS, SUPERMAN WHIRLS HIM THRU THE AIR SO THAT THE RUSH OF WIND REVIVES HIM...
WHAT-- WHERE--?
THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO KNOW. WHERE HAS THE EMPEROR GONE?


THAT'S SOMETHING YOU'LL NEVER KNOW!
YOU'RE GOING TO CHANGE YOUR MIND PRETTY QUICK!
AND AS SUPERMAN REMOVES THE METAL HELMET....
NOW WILL YOU TELL ME?
CERTAINLY! WHY NOT? HE'S PROBABLY GONE TO HIS LABORATORY ATOP PENTON'S PEAK!
REMOVING THE HELMETS OF THE OTHER HIRELINGS SO THAT THEY ARE RENDERED HELPLESS, THE MAN OF STEEL HURTLES SKYWARD...
NOW FOR-- PENTON'S PEAK!
I DESTROY YOU AND MY RAY-MACHINE AT ONE STROKE... ESCAPE WITH THE LOOT...
YOU KILLER!
BEFORE LEAVING, I'D LIKE TO TELL YOU ABOUT THIS WONDERFUL RAY OF MINE. IT LOWERS ONE'S INITIATIVE, THE WILL TO RESIST. UPON DISCOVERING IT, I IMMEDIATELY REALIZED ITS POTENTIALITIES FOR PROFIT. I BLANKETED THE NATION WITH THE INVISIBLE RAYS--AND THUS RECEIVED NO OPPOSITION WHEN I VENTURED TO SEIZE THE GOVERNMENT!
GOODBYE! IN A FEW MOMENTS A BOMB WILL SEND BOTH YOU AND MY DISCOVERY TO ETERNITY! AND AS FOR ME, I'LL BE ON MY WAY TO A FOREIGN COUNTRY AND A LIFE OF EASE!
OPTIMISTIC, AREN'T YOU?
FIRST TO ATTEND TO THAT BOMB--!
TEARING OFF THE BOMB'S FUSE, SUPERMAN UNTIES LOIS...
NEXT... THE EMPEROR!
12

THE EMPEROR RESORTS TO AN UNEXPECTED RUSE--
SHOVE HIM OFF!
I SHOULD HAVE REMEMBERED THAT LOIS IS STILL UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THAT NON-RESISTANCE RAY!
DOWN PLUMMETS SUPERMAN INTO A MAZE OF ROLLERS AND GEARS...
JUST A GOOD RUBDOWN!
I'M FOCUSING THE RAY TO ITS UTMOST POWER --IF THIS DOESN'T STOP YOU, NOTHING WILL!
INVISIBLE TENTACLES-- CLUTCHING AT MY MIND-- URGING ME NOT TO RESIST-- NOT TO RESIST...
I COMMAND YOU TO STOP-- COME NO FURTHER-- DON'T MOVE...
GOT TO-- GOT TO...
WITH ONE LAST DESPERATE EFFORT, SUPERMAN MANAGES TO KNOCK OFF THE EMPEROR'S METAL HELMET....
NOW THAT YOU'RE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF YOUR OWN RAY, YOU SHOULD HAVE NO URGE TO RESIST ME!
WHY SEEK TO OPPOSE YOU?
THE END OF THIS MONSTROUS RAY-MACHINE!
SHORTLY AFTER...
YOU'RE WELCOME TO HIM!
QUICK! WHERE'S THE NEAREST PHONE-BOOTH?
CLARK! DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE SCOOPED ME AGAIN?!
IT'S THE SUPERMAN IN ME!
THE END
13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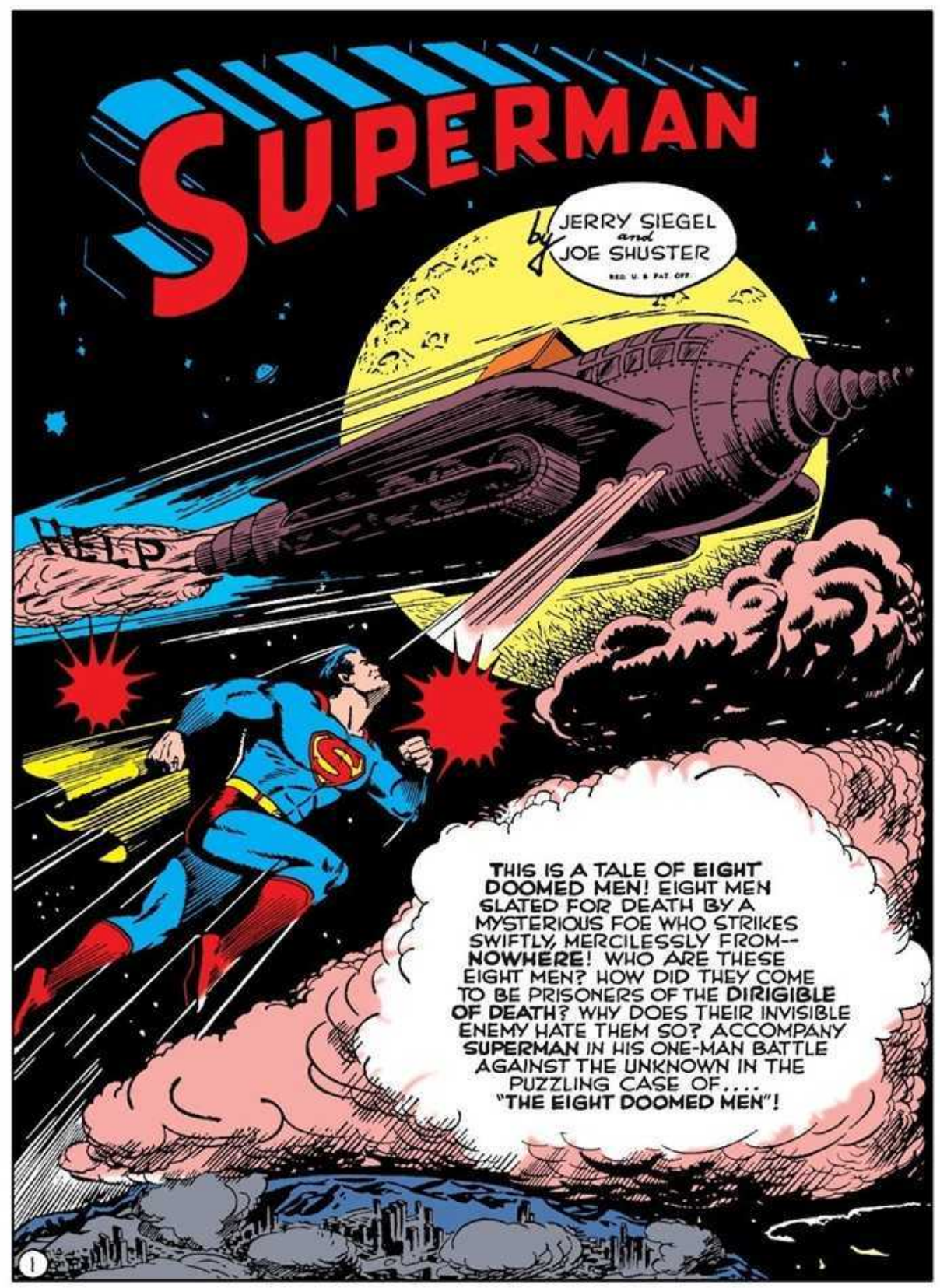

SUPERMAN
by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
HELP
THIS IS A TALE OF EIGHT DOOMED MEN! EIGHT MEN SLATED FOR DEATH BY A MYSTERIOUS FOE WHO STRIKES SWIFTLY, MERCILESSLY FROM-- NOWHERE! WHO ARE THESE EIGHT MEN? HOW DID THEY COME TO BE PRISONERS OF THE DIRIGIBLE OF DEATH? WHY DOES THEIR INVISIBLE ENEMY HATE THEM SO? ACCOMPANY SUPERMAN IN HIS ONE-MAN BATTLE AGAINST THE UNKNOWN IN THE PUZZLING CASE OF.... "THE EIGHT DOOMED MEN"!
1

A TERRIFIC DOWNPOUR SAVAGELY PELTS THE SPEEDING ROADSTER WHICH THREATENS TO SKID OFF THE DARK, WINDING ROAD...
MEANWHILE -- IN HIS NEARBY MOUNTAIN RETREAT, SUPERMAN INDULGES IN A SERIES OF WHIRLWIND EXERCISES...
JUST LIKE AN ELECTRIC-FAN!
BACK AND FORTH HE LEAPS FROM ONE WALL TO ANOTHER...
THIS IS FUN... AS LONG AS I REMEMBER NOT TO GO THRU THE WALL!
BASKETBALL IS AN INTERESTING SPORT -- BUT WHEN SUPERMAN PLAYS BOTH SIDES SIMULTANEOUSLY, IT'S ASTOUNDING!
HM-MMM! I WONDER WHICH ONE OF MYSELVES I SHOULD PERMIT TO MAKE THE BASKET?
THINK RAT-TAT-TAT-ING A PUNCHING-BAG IS SIMPLE? WELL, TRY TO KEEP A DOZEN WHIRLING IN RHYTHM AT ONE TIME!!
2
BUT AS SUPERMAN'S SUPER-SENSITIVE EARS DETECT A DISTRESS SIGNAL, HE HURTLES UP THRU A SWINGING DOOR AND OUT INTO THE NIGHT'S CHILL DARKNESS....
A CALL FOR HELP!

SUPERMAN'S TELESCOPIC-VISION BRINGS TO HIM A CLOSEUP OF THE DISTRESS CALL'S SOURCE....
AT THAT MOMENT--A LUXURIOUS TOURING CAR WHIZZES PAST THE OVER-TURNED CAR...
SHALL I STOP, SIR?
CERTAINLY NOT! DRIVE ON, JENKINS!
HELP! HELP ME!!
I'LL HAVE YOU FREE IN A JIFFY!
HURRY!
THERE YOU ARE!
I--I THOUGHT HELP WOULD NEVER COME.
NO BONES BROKEN--YOU MIRACULOUSLY ESCAPED BEING HARMED! I WONDER WHY THAT MAN IN THE EXPENSIVE CAR DIDN'T STOP TO HELP YOU?
THAT WAS ANDREW P. STONE, THE FABULOUSLY WEALTHY INDUSTRIALIST. THE SELFISH DOG WOULDN'T HELP HIS OWN CHILD. SOME DAY I'LL KILL HIM!
YOU'RE OF INDIAN ANCESTRY, AREN'T YOU? YOUR FACE LOOKS FAMILIAR! I SEEM TO HAVE SEEN IT BEFORE.
THAT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE. I'VE RECEIVED LOTS OF PUBLICITY. I'M CHARLIE GOODFELLOW, A CHEROKEE CHIEF. OIL WAS FOUND ON MY PROPERTY AND I'M QUITE WEALTHY. --YOU, OF COURSE, ARE SUPERMAN.
WHERE WERE YOU BOUND?
I WAS HEADED FOR THAT CABIN AT THE TOP OF THE HILL. YOU'VE BEEN VERY KIND!
THE MOTOR WON'T START!
THEN LET ME HELP YOU!
3

MEANWHILE--
REMAIN WHERE YOU ARE, JENKINS!
BUT THE WEATHER, SIR...!
WHAT ARE--?!
I'LL GET YOU TO YOUR DESTI-NATION!
A RAGGED FIGURE BELOW--OBVIOUSLY TRUDGING TOWARD THE CABIN!
WANT A LIFT?
HEY!
YOU ARE HEADED FOR THAT CABIN, AREN'T YOU?
YEAH! BUT I NEVER THOUGHT "HEELS" MOBRAY WOULD TRAVEL LIKE THIS!
DEPOSITING HIS PASSENGERS OUTSIDE THE CABIN SUPERMAN SPRINGS OFF...
BOY! THAT BEATS HOPPING A FREIGHT, ANY DAY!
THANKS!
BUT AS HE HURTLES OFF, SUPERMAN GLANCES BACK TO NOTE....
WHAT A STRANGELY ASSORTED GROUP OF MEN THERE ARE IN THAT CABIN! I WONDER WHAT BROUGHT THEM THERE?
ALWAYS GLAD TO DO ANYONE A GOOD TURN!
REACHING HIS MOUNTAIN-RETREAT, SUPERMAN PROMPTLY FORGETS THE MATTER...
NOW TO RELAX AND CATCH UP ON MY READING SCHEDULE!
4

LIGHTNING TEARS ACROSS THE HEAVENS--THUNDER CRASHES DEAFENINGLY.... AS THO IN ACCOMPANIMENT TO THE SAVAGE CLASHES OF TEMPERAMENT OCCURRING WITHIN THE DARK CABIN....
I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT YOU DROVE PAST AND LEFT ME HELPLESS THERE TO DIE!
WHY SHOULD A MAN OF MY IMPORTANCE CONCERN HIMSELF WHETHER SOME LOWLY HUMAN BEING LIVES OR PERISHES? I AM NOT INTERESTED IN SINGLE INDIVIDUALS--THE FATE OF THOUSANDS OF WORKERS IS IN MY HANDS!
IT'S EASY FOR YOU TO TALK LIKE THAT--YOU WERE BORN TO RICHES--EVERYTHING CAME EASILY TO YOU...!
YOU'RE A FINE ONE TO INSULT ANYONE! YOU WHO AT GRADUATION WERE LISTED AS "THE MAN MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED". AND LOOK AT YOU! YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A BEGGAR!
CUT IT OUT! LEAVE HIM ALONE!
NATURALLY YOU WOULD COME TO THE DEFENSE OF "HEELS". YOU'VE SUNK PRETTY LOW YOURSELF, CHICK RYAN. YOU'RE A COMMON THIEF. YOUR SKIN IS STILL PALLID FROM RECENT IMPRISONMENT!
IF I WEREN'T A SICK MAN, I'D---!
DON'T EXCITE CHICK. IT SHOULD BE EVIDENT TO EVEN YOU THAT HE HAS A BAD HEART--EXCITEMENT MIGHT BE FATAL!
SMALL LOSS IT WOULD BE TO THE WORLD IF HE DIED, AND THE SAME GOES FOR YOU, DOCTOR DAN MALLORY! I KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU--HOW YOU OPERATED WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRINK. THE PATIENT DIED... AND YOU HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO PERFORM THE SIMPLEST OPERATION SINCE!
CAREFUL WHAT YOU SAY, STONE. THERE ARE SLANDER LAWS, YOU KNOW!
LOOK WHO'S SPEAKING SO AUTHORITATIVELY--CONRAD THORNDIKE, THE UNDERWORLD'S BEST-PAID CRIMINAL LAWYER! YOU KNOW THE LAW WELL... SO THAT YOU CAN TRICK IT!
AND WHO ARE YOU TO BE SO HIGH AND MIGHTY AND JUDGE EVERYONE? YOU'VE GOT MILLIONS AND I, HENRY KIMBALL, AM POOR--BUT ONLY DUE TO LUCK! IF I'D HAD THE BREAKS, YOU'D BE POOR AND I'D BE RICH!
WHY ARGUE LIKE THIS? TAKE ME, FOR INSTANCE. EVERYONE KNOWS WHO ALBERT DAMON, OWNER OF THE MEAT STORE CHAIN, IS. I'M WEALTHY, AND I HAVEN'T AN ENEMY IN THE WORLD!
WHAT A STRANGE ASSORTMENT WE MAKE! "RICH MAN, POOR MAN, BEGGAR MAN, THIEF, DOCTOR, LAWYER, MERCHANT, CHIEF!" JUST LIKE THE NURSERY RHYME! LET'S EXAMINE THE CIRCUMSTANCE THAT BROUGHT US TOGETHER!
5

"--TWENTY YEARS AGO, AS MEMBERS OF THE ELKHART UNIVERSITY PI THETA DAU FRATERNITY, WE SWORE A SOLEMN VOW..."
WE HEREBY SWEAR TO REASSEMBLE TWENTY YEARS FROM NOW!
I'LL PROBABLY BE A CAPTAIN OF INDUSTRY BY THEN, ANDY. AND IF YOU NEED A JOB, ALL YOU'LL HAVE TO DO IS ASK ME FOR IT!
HOW ABOUT MAKING ME YOUR TREASURER?
ELKHART
I COMPLETELY FORGOT ALL ABOUT THAT VOW UNTIL I RECEIVED THIS UNSIGNED NOTE A FEW DAYS AGO. IT ASKED ME TO COME TO THIS CABIN TO MEET THE OTHERS.
I GUESS THE SAME THING HAPPENED TO THE REST OF US. I WONDER WHO WROTE THE NOTES?
STONE PROBABLY DID IT SO HE COULD GLOAT OVER THE REST OF US!
YOU LYING PIPSQUEAK! I USED TO THRASH YOU AT COLLEGE-- AND I CAN DO IT AGAIN!
DON'T LET HIM STRIKE ME!
MEMBERS OF PI THETA DAU, I GREET YOU!
WHERE'D THAT VOICE COME FROM?
THE RADIO!
GENTLEMEN--YOU REASSEMBLE HERE AFTER TWENTY YEARS.., AS MY GUESTS! YOU WILL FIND ME A MOST ATTENTIVE HOST BECAUSE I PROPOSE TO KILL ALL OF YOU!! GENTLEMEN! YOU ARE--EIGHT DOOMED MEN!
WHO TURNED ON THE RADIO?
NO ONE!
AS I THOUGHT! SOMEONE'S IDEA OF A STUPID JOKE! THAT VOICE IS COMING FROM A RECORD WHICH WAS STARTED BY A TIME-MECHANISM!
SMASH THE RECORD, DAMON!
6
BUT AS ALBERT DAMON LIFTS THE RECORD, THERE IS A SHARP TWANG-- AND THE MERCHANT DROPS, STRICKEN...
YAAA-AAA-AAA!
DAMON!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM?
HE'S DEAD-- A NEEDLE... EVIDENTLY POISONED... PUNCTURED HIS THROAT!
I BEGIN TO SEE IT NOW! ONE OF US SECRETLY HATES THE OTHERS! THAT'S WHY HE'S SUMMONED US HERE! HE INTENDS TO KILL US ALL!!!

I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE!
ME, TOO!
I WAS A SAP TO COME HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE!
BUT A SUDDEN LURCH OF THE ROOM HURLS THEM ALL OFF THEIR FEET!
HEY!
WHAT'S HAPPENING ??!
THE SCREENING NIGHT WITNESSES AN INCREDIBLE SIGHT--THE SMALL CABIN HEAVES AND TOSSES AS TWO CAUGHT IN THE GRIP OF GREAT TREMORS...!
NEXT MOMENT, A HUGE VESSEL LURCHES UP OUT OF THE GROUND--THE CABIN PERCHED ATOP IT...TRACTOR-LIKE CHAINS CHURNING TONS OF EARTH INTO THE AIR...!
...AND MOMENTS LATER IT TAKES TO THE AIR, ROCKET-TUBES BLASTING!
WE'RE ATOP A GREAT SKY-SHIP!
HUNDREDS OF FEET ABOVE THE GROUND AND GOING HIGHER EVERY MOMENT!
LET ME OUT! LET ME OUT!!
BE CALM, EVERY-ONE! IT'S EVIDENT THAT WE'RE PRISONERS ON THIS WEIRD VESSEL--IF WE'RE GOING TO ESCAPE, WE'VE GOT TO KEEP OUR HEADS!
THIS IS SOME OF YOUR WORK!!
THE TELEPHONE RINGS. HESITANTLY, FEARFULLY, STONE ANSWERS IT...A VOICE BLASTS OUT...
THE EIGHT DOOMED MEN ARE NOW--SEVEN DOOMED MEN!
THAT VOICE AGAIN!!
7

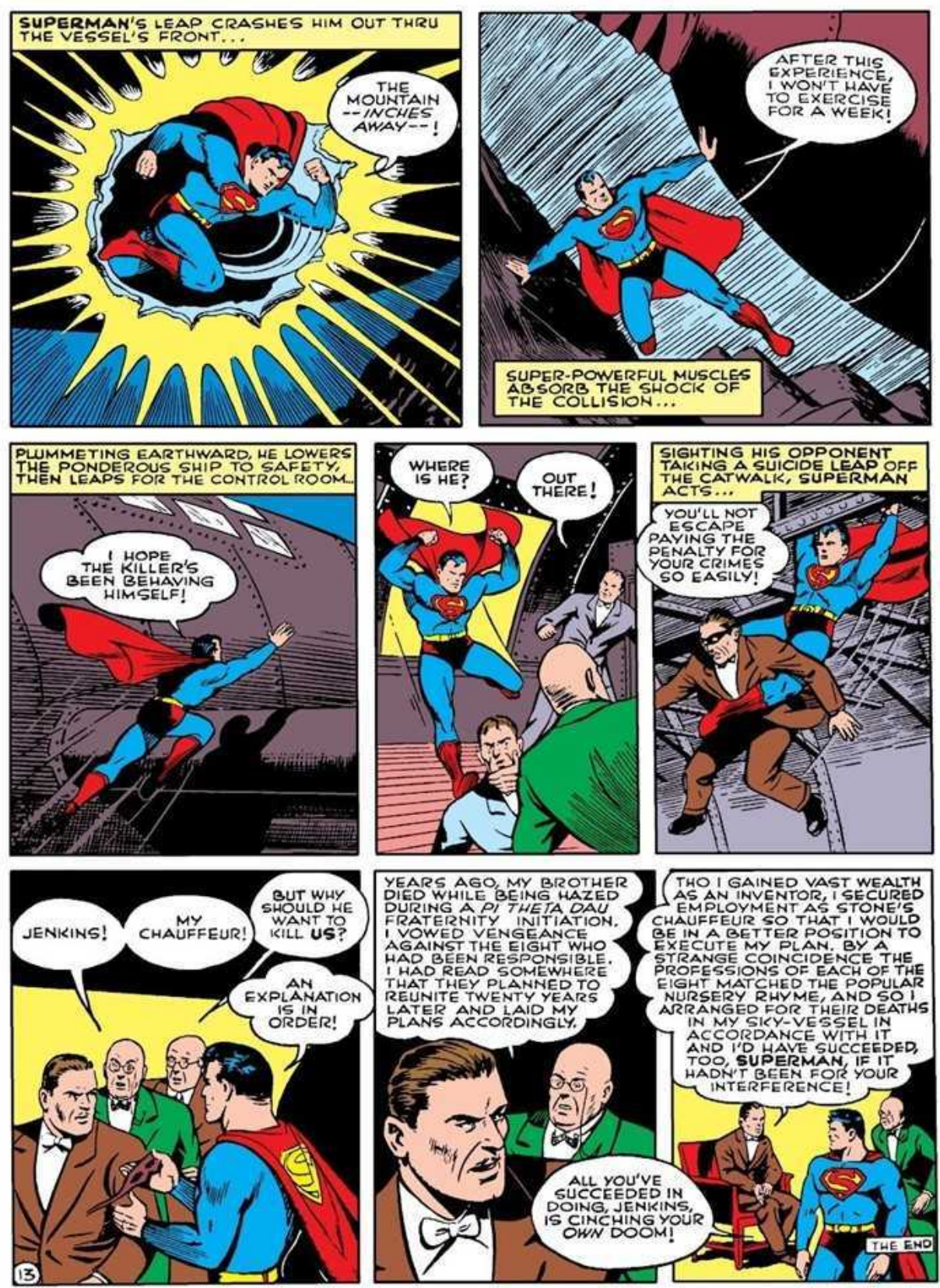
TRAPPED--FATED TO DIE ONE BY ONE UNLESS...
BUT WHY SHOULD ONE OF US WANT TO KILL THE OTHERS? OR FOR THAT MATTER WHY SHOULD ANYONE WANT TO KILL US? IS THERE NO WAY WE CAN SUMMON AID?
I'VE AN IDEA! IF WE WERE TO TIE RAGS TOGETHER TO FORM THE WORD "HELP" AND TRAIL IT BEHIND THE VESSEL, IT WOULD BE SURE TO ATTRACT ATTENTION!
SWIFTLY, THE MEN SCATTER TO DIFFERENT ROOMS IN THE CABIN, SNATCHING BED SHEETS... ANY CLOTH THEY CAN LAY THEIR HANDS UPON...
WHERE'S "HEELS"? I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM FOR FIVE MINUTES.
THE LAZY GOOD-FOR-NOTHING BEGGAR IS PROBABLY TAKING IT EASY WHILE WE WORK!
I'LL HANDLE HIM!
BUT STONE'S HOARSE SHOUT BRINGS THE OTHERS INTO A BEDROOM A MOMENT LATER...
THE MERCHANT WAS BUTCHERED! THE BEGGAR IS STRANGLED WITH RAGS!
THE EIGHT DOOMED MEN ARE NOW--SIX DOOMED MEN!
WHAT NEXT?!
A MICROPHONE BEHIND THE PICTURE!
QUICK! LET'S FINISH OUR WORK BEFORE MORE OF US DIE!
MINUTES LATER--GOODFELLOW DESPERATELY CRAWLS ALONG THE SKY-SHIP'S SMOOTH SIDE, BATTLING THE POWERFUL WIND... FINALLY, NUMBED FINGERS COMPLETE THEIR TASK...
HELP
NOW TO GET BACK!
BUT AS GOOD-FELLOW ALMOST REACHES THE CABIN DOOR...
AN ARROW!
LOOK OUT!
I DON'T SEE STONE!
EARTHWARD CRASHES THE FIGURE--THE INDIAN CHIEF'S LIFE SNUFFED OUT BY A CRUEL ARROW!--"RICH MAN, POOR MAN, BEGGAR MAN, THIEF, DOCTOR, LAWYER, MERCHANT, CHIEF!"
8

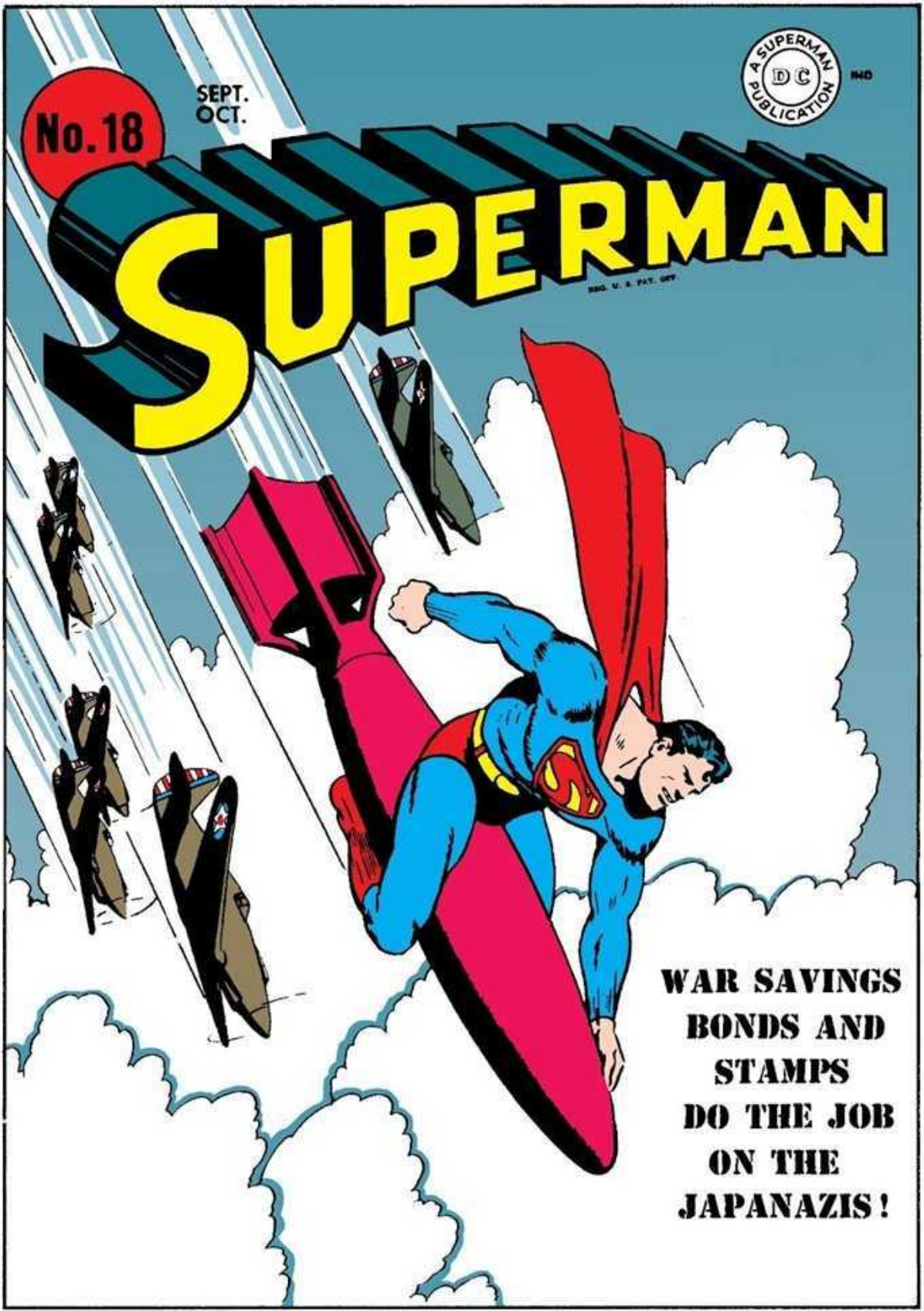
THAT STRANGE SKY-SHIP-- IT'S GOT THE WORD "HELP" FLUTTERING BEHIND IT! DO YOU THINK SOMEONE'S IN TROUBLE?
NAW! IT'S PROBABLY JUST SOME HAREBRAINED PUBLICITY STUNT!
A WEIRD VESSEL HAS BEEN SIGHTED RISING ABOVE THE CITY! ATOP IT IS A LOG CABIN--AND BEHIND IT, MADE OF RAGS, IS THE WORD! HELP! IT IS SUSPECTED OF BEING A PUBLICITY SCHEME.
A LOG CABIN! PERHAPS THERE'S NO CONNECTION BETWEEN IT AND THE CABIN IN WHICH I GLIMPSED AN ODDLY ASSORTED GROUP OF MEN, BUT...
...THERE'S NO HARM INVESTIGATING!
THE CABIN'S GONE! AND THIS HUGE HOLE IN THE GROUND INDICATES THERE HAD BEEN A MASSIVE OBJECT BENEATH IT!
STREAKING THRU THE RAGING DOWNPOUR, SUPERMAN'S SUPER-SENSITIVE HEARING PICKS UP THE SOUND OF THE HUGE VESSEL'S ROCKETS--IN MINUTES, IT COMES INTO VIEW...
HELP
SURE ENOUGH! THAT'S THE CABIN I CARRIED CHARLIE GOODFELLOW AND "HEELS" MOBRAY TO! BUT WHAT DOES THIS MEAN--??
UNEXPECTEDLY, POWERFUL SHELLS BURST ABOUT THE MAN OF TOMORROW....
EVIDENTLY MY PRESENCE ISN'T VERY WELCOME!
9
MEANWHILE--
ONLY FIVE OF US LEFT! WHO--WILL BE NEXT?
THE WAY THIS PARROT HAS BEEN WATCHING ME YOU'D THINK HE KNOWS I RUN A PET SHOP. HE LOOKS HUNGRY. I'LL FEED HIM SOME OF THIS SEED-- OUCH!
AN INSTANT LATER, KIMBALL CRASHES TO THE FLOOR-- DEAD!
THE SEED WAS POISONED! WHOEVER STARVED THE PARROT MUST HAVE KNOWN HE'D SNAP AT KIMBALL WHEN HE TRIED TO FEED HIM!
THE "POOR MAN"-- KILLED BY A BILL...!
THE EIGHT DOOMED MEN ARE NOW-- FOUR DOOMED MEN!

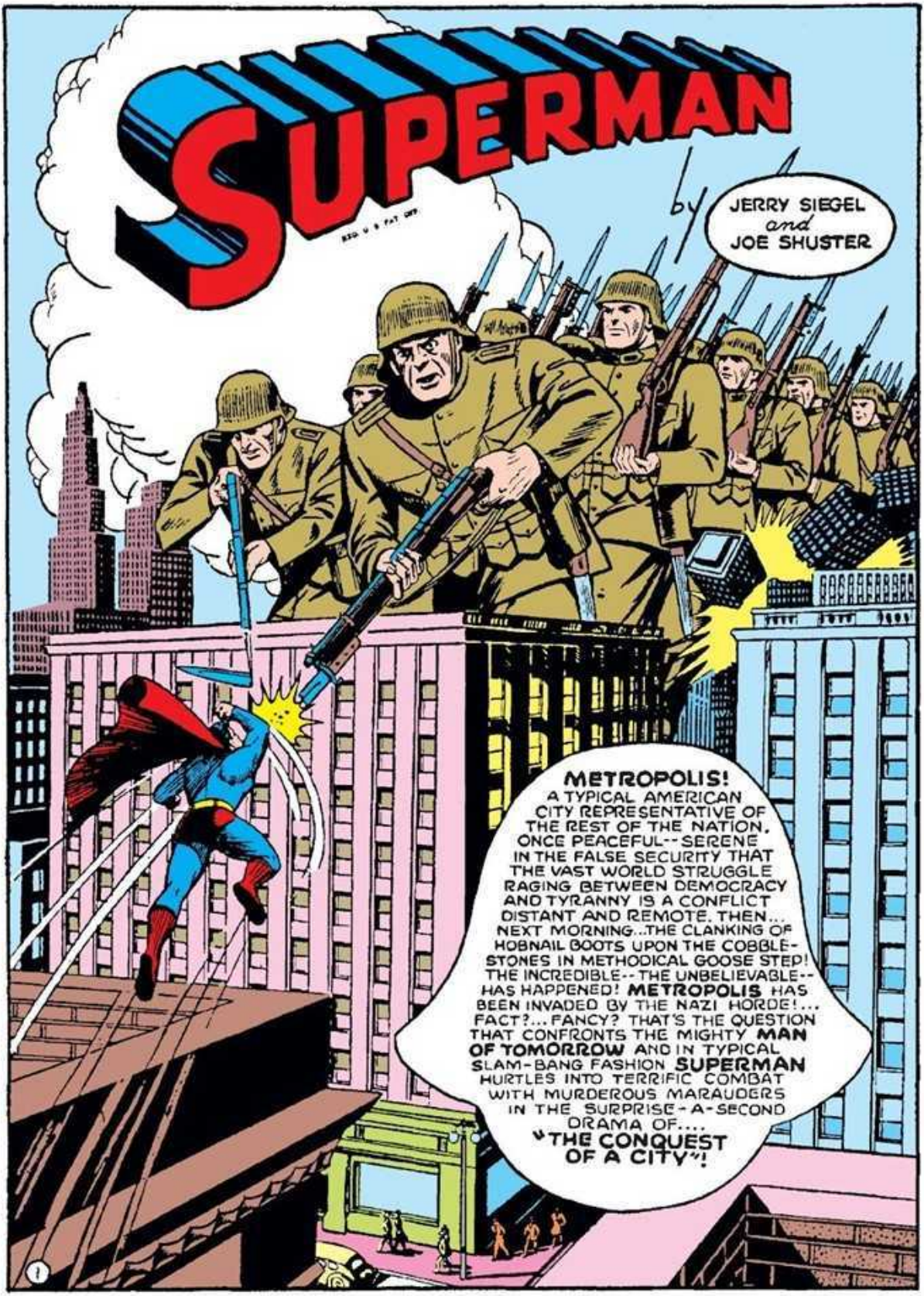
SURVIVING THE SHELLS' ONSLAUGHT, SUPERMAN CRASHES INTO THE CABIN...
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
IT'S-- SUPERMAN! WE'RE SAVED!
SOME MADMAN LURED US TO THIS CABIN-- HE'S SUCCEEDED IN KILLING FOUR OF US AND THREATENS THE LIVES OF THE OTHERS!
REMAIN HERE WHILE I TRY TO LOCATE THE FIEND RESPONSIBLE! KEEP TOGETHER!
DOWN INTO THE SKY-VESSEL PLUMMETS THE MAN OF TOMORROW....
SOMEONE FLEEING--!
SUPERMAN'S HEADLONG CHARGE CARRIES HIM INTO A METAL CHAMBER. SUDDENLY THE DOOR CLANGS BEHIND HIM....
GOOD GRIEF-- I'M IN ONE OF THE ROCKET-CHAMBERS!
A TERRIFIC EAR-SHATTERING ROAR-- AND A POWERFUL ROCKET-BLAST HURTLES SUPERMAN INTO THE NIGHT LIKE A HUMAN MISSILE ..!
MEANWHILE--AS HE SIGHTS A TRAIL OF GLITTERING COINS, STONE'S AVARICE OVERCOMES HIS CAUTION...
THIS WILL ONLY TAKE A FEW MOMENTS!
BUT AS HE ENTERS AN ADJOINING ROOM, THE FLOOR GIVES WAY BENEATH HIM! DOWN HE WHIPS ALONG A WINDING CHUTE....
HEY--!
...TO ALIGHT IN A BARE RECTANGULAR CHAMBER!
IF YOU REMAIN HERE, YOU STARVE ... BUT PERCHED ATOP THE HIGH SHELF IS GOLD -- AND THE WAY TO FREEDOM!
GOLD!!
10

A TERRIBLE, INTENT DESIRE TRANSFORMS THE MILLIONAIRE'S FACE AS HE PAINFULLY CLAMBERS UP TOWARD THE GLITTERING PRIZE...
ALL THAT GOLD...!
...MINE ...SOON MINE!!
BUT AS STONE TOUCHES THE TOP OF THE SHELF, THE YELLOW WEALTH TOPPLES DOWN-- KNOCKS HIM FREE OF HIS PRECARIOUS HOLD....
YEEE EEE!
AS HE TOPPLES DOWNWARD, STONE MANAGES TO SECURE A FRANTIC GRIP...
I--I CAN'T HANG ON MUCH LONGER!
THE EIGHT DOOMED MEN WILL SOON BE-- THREE DOOMED MEN!
MEANWHILE--RENDERED UNCONSCIOUS BY THE ROCKET BLAST AND FUMES, SUPERMAN CRASHES THRU THE TOP OF A CIRCUS TENT...
AN INSTANT BEFORE HE CAN STRIKE GROUND, HE REVIVES AND, WITH THE AID OF HIS CLOAK, REVERSES THE DIRECTION OF HIS FLIGHT...
A CLOSE CALL!
SOON AFTER-- AS HE RETURNS TO THE SKY-VESSEL...
WHERE'S STONE?
HE WANDERED AWAY, NOW WE CAN'T FIND HIM!
GET ME OFFA HERE!
AT ONCE!
WITH THE AID OF HIS UNCANNY X-RAY VISION, SUPERMAN LOCATES STONE'S PRISON HE CRASHES IN JUST IN TIME TO CATCH THE FALLING MILLIONAIRE AS STONE LOSES HIS GRIP AGAIN...
THE KILLER TRIED TO KILL YOU WITH MONEY BAGS! LET'S GET TO THIS VESSEL'S CONTROL ROOM BEFORE HE HAS A CHANCE TO STRIKE AGAIN!
11

AS SUPERMAN LEADS THE WAY...
"DOCTOR, LAWYER, THIEF!" IF THE MYSTERIOUS MENACE RUNS TRUE TO FORM, HE'LL TRY TO ELIMINATE THE REMAINDER OF YOU IN SOME MANNER CONNECTED WITH YOUR PROFESSIONS!
BUT WHAT SORT OF DEATH COULD HE PLAN FOR A MEMBER OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION?
SIGHTING A HUGE GAVEL PLUMMETING DOWN TOWARD THE LAWYER, SUPERMAN LEAPS IN AND SMASHES IT INTO DOZENS OF FRAGMENTS JUST IN TIME...
THIS WILL GIVE YOU A ROUGH IDEA!
A MOMENT LATER, THE MAN OF TOMORROW WHIPS TOWARD MALLORY AS A SCALPEL HURTLES TOWARD THE DOCTOR OUT OF A SMALL PANEL...
PASS THE KNIFE, PLEASE!
HE MUST BE MAD!
WHERE'S RYAN? HE'S DIS-APPEARED!
CAN HE BE THE KILLER?
IN THE NEXT ROOM-- A CAPTIVE...
WHAT SUPERMAN'S AMAZING X-RAY VISION REVEALS TO HIM....
(GASP!) THE MEDICINE-- I'M HAVING AN ATTACK... I'VE GOT TO HAVE IT!
SOON THERE WILL BE THREE DOOMED MEN!!
SMASHING IN THRU THE WALL, SUPERMAN FREES RYAN AND GETS MEDICINE TO HIM IN TIME...
HE TRIED TO KILL YOU WITH THE AID OF HANDCUFFS!
YOU'VE SAVED MY LIFE! EVEN A THIEF CAN BE GRATEFUL!
LATER...
I CAN HEAR SOMEONE MOVING ABOUT INSIDE.
CONTROL ROOM
WE'VE LOCATED THE KILLER!
ONE SIDE!
YOUR KILLING DAYS ARE OVER!
WRONG! I'LL KILL US ALL! LOOK! ANOTHER INSTANT AND WE CRASH INTO A MOUNTAIN!
12


SUPERMAN'S LEAP CRASHES HIM OUT THRU THE VESSEL'S FRONT...
THE MOUNTAIN --INCHES AWAY--!
AFTER THIS EXPERIENCE, I WON'T HAVE TO EXERCISE FOR A WEEK!
SUPER-POWERFUL MUSCLES ABSORB THE SHOCK OF THE COLLISION...
PLUMMETING EARTHWARD, HE LOWERS THE PONDEROUS SHIP TO SAFETY, THEN LEAPS FOR THE CONTROL ROOM...
I HOPE THE KILLER'S BEEN BEHAVING HIMSELF!
WHERE IS HE?
OUT THERE!
SIGHTING HIS OPPONENT TAKING A SUICIDE LEAP OFF THE CATWALK, SUPERMAN ACTS...
YOU'LL NOT ESCAPE PAYING THE PENALTY FOR YOUR CRIMES SO EASILY!
JENKINS!
MY CHAUFFEUR!
BUT WHY SHOULD HE WANT TO KILL US?
AN EXPLANATION IS IN ORDER!
YEARS AGO, MY BROTHER DIED WHILE BEING HAZED DURING A PI THETA DAU FRATERNITY INITIATION. I VOWED VENGEANCE AGAINST THE EIGHT WHO HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE. I HAD READ SOMEWHERE THAT THEY PLANNED TO REUNITE TWENTY YEARS LATER AND LAID MY PLANS ACCORDINGLY.
ALL YOU'VE SUCCEEDED IN DOING, JENKINS, IS CINCHING YOUR OWN DOOM!
THO I GAINED VAST WEALTH AS AN INVENTOR, I SECURED EMPLOYMENT AS STONE'S CHAUFFEUR SO THAT I WOULD BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO EXECUTE MY PLAN. BY A STRANGE COINCIDENCE THE PROFESSIONS OF EACH OF THE EIGHT MATCHED THE POPULAR NURSERY RHYME, AND SO I ARRANGED FOR THEIR DEATHS IN MY SKY-VESSEL IN ACCORDANCE WITH IT AND I'D HAVE SUCCEEDED, TOO, SUPERMAN, IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR YOUR INTERFERENCE!
THE END
13


No. 18
SEPT.
OCT.
SUPERMAN
A SUPERMAN PUBLICATION
DC
WAR SAVINGS
BONDS AND
STAMPS
DO THE JOB
ON THE
JAPANAZIS!


SUPERMAN
by
JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
METROPOLIS! A TYPICAL AMERICAN CITY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REST OF THE NATION. ONCE PEACEFUL--SERENE IN THE FALSE SECURITY THAT THE VAST WORLD STRUGGLE RAGING BETWEEN DEMOCRACY AND TYRANNY IS A CONFLICT DISTANT AND REMOTE. THEN... NEXT MORNING...THE CLANKING OF HOBNAIL BOOTS UPON THE COBBLESTONES IN METHODICAL GOOSE STEP! THE INCREDIBLE--THE UNBELIEVABLE--HAS HAPPENED! METROPOLIS HAS BEEN INVADED BY THE NAZI HORDE!... FACT?... FANCY? THAT'S THE QUESTION THAT CONFRONTS THE MIGHTY MAN OF TOMORROW AND IN TYPICAL SLAM-BANG FASHION SUPERMAN HURTLES INTO TERRIFIC COMBAT WITH MURDEROUS MARAUDERS IN THE SURPRISE-A-SECOND DRAMA OF.... "THE CONQUEST OF A CITY"!
1

EN ROUTE TO WORK ONE MORNING, CLARK KENT NOTES...
THAT FACTORY-- NOT IN PRODUCTION--
THE CIVILIAN DEFENSE REQUEST FOR AIR RAID WARDENS... RECEIVING POOR RESPONSE
CRAFT CO.
BE AN AIR-RAID WARDEN
MEN OUT OF WORK-- MEN WHO COULD BE SUPPLYING VALUABLE AID TO THE ARMS PRODUCTION RACE-- UNEMPLOYED BECAUSE OF OLD AGE,--AND YET, THEY'RE ALL LOYAL AMERICANS...
ACME EMPLOYMENT AGENCY
STORES THRONGED-- THEATRES CROWDED--PEOPLE SPENDING--HOARDING--LAUGHING-- WHILE THE FATE OF A WORLD TREMBLES IN THE BALANCE. SOMEBODY SHOULD DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT--AND-- BY GEORGE--I WILL...!
I TELL YOU, WHITE--THE CITIZENS OF METROPOLIS ARE ASLEEP! IT'S GOT ME WORRIED-- OUR VERY EXISTENCE IS IMPERILED BY FASCISM AND YET WE ARE STILL TROUBLED WITH PETTY PROBLEMS. EVERYWHERE THERE IS A FALSE SENSE OF GAIETY--THE PEOPLE HAVE GOT TO WAKE UP...!!!
YOU'VE MY PERMISSION TO AWAKEN THEM, CLARK-- AND YOU NEEDN'T BE TOO GENTLE ABOUT IT!
DAILY PLANET
OPEN YOUR EYES--BEFORE THE FOE CLOSES THEM FOR YOU--PERMANENTLY!
BY CLARK KENT
NICE ARTICLE, CLARK! IT'S AROUSING GREAT COMMENT-- NEWSPAPERS THROUGHOUT THE NATION ARE REPRINTING IT!
COMMENT IS NOT ENOUGH! I WANT THE CITIZENS OF METROPOLIS THOROUGHLY AROUSED-- FIGHTING MAD!
I AGREE WITH YOU, KENT-- AND THAT'S WHY I'VE COME TO YOU-- WITH A PLAN...
EH? WHAT'S THAT?
2

I'M CARL BLAND, A LAWYER WELL-KNOWN IN THIS TOWN. MAY I SPEAK TO YOU ALONE?
CERTAINLY.
I THOROUGHLY AGREE WITH YOU THAT SOMETHING DRASTIC SHOULD BE DONE TO AWAKEN THE PUBLIC TO ITS PERIL. AND I'VE A DEFINITE SUGGESTION TO OFFER.
I'M LISTENING.
WHAT COULD AROUSE THE PUBLIC MORE THOROUGHLY THAN AN INVASION OF METROPOLIS BY THE NAZIS? IMAGINE THE FOE CRUSHING CIVIL LIBERTIES--ROBBING--DESTROYING!!!
THAT CERTAINLY WOULD WAKE UP THE PUBLIC! THE LAST THING WE WANT TO SEE IS METROPOLIS INVADED.
RIGHT! BUT WHAT I HAVE TO SUGGEST IS A MOCK INVASION! WE'LL DRESS UP YOUNG MEN AS NAZI SOLDIERS, HAVE THEM MARCH INTO THE TOWN AND CARRY OUT PRE-ARRANGED, WELL-PUBLICIZED, PHONY "OUTRAGES"!
SA-AAAY! MAYBE YOU HAVE GOT SOMETHING THERE! LET'S SEE WHAT MR. WHITE, THE EDITOR, THINKS OF THE IDEA!
IT'S A GREAT IDEA--A REAL INSPIRATION! I'M SURE THE MAYOR AND ALL THE OTHER CITY OFFICIALS WILL GO FOR IT! GET TO WORK ON IT, CLARK!
NOW ALL WE'VE GOT TO DO IS ASK FOR VOLUNTEERS TO PLAY THE ROLE OF NAZI SOLDIERS.
I CAN HELP YOU THERE, TOO!
I AM DIRECTOR OF THE IZAN ATHLETIC CLUB! HUNDREDS OF YOUNG MEN BELONG TO THIS SPLENDID ATHLETIC ORGANIZATION AND I'M SURE I CAN PERSUADE THEM TO CO-OPERATE.
SWELL! --NOW TO GIVE THIS PLAN PUBLICITY!
SHORTLY AFTER--AS BLAND ENTERS THE GYM OF THE IZAN CLUB--A GROUP OF YOUNG MEN PAUSE IN THEIR EXERCISES TO DELIVER THE NAZI SALUTE...!
HEIL HITLER!
3

IN A BACK ROOM, BLAND CONTACTS THE BERLIN GESTAPO VIA A SHORT-WAVE RADIO....
I AM PLEASED TO REPORT THAT OUR PLAN HAS BEEN FAVORABLY RECEIVED. THESE DEMOCRATIC FOOLS ARE QUITE GULLIBLE.
GOOD WORK, HERR BLAND! WE SHALL RELY UPON YOU TO SABOTAGE VITAL DEFENSE CENTERS IN METROPOLIS!
FELLOW NAZIS, WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY THAT COMES ONCE IN A LIFE-TIME! APPARENTLY PLAYING THE PARTS OF NAZI SOLDIERS, YOU WILL MARCH ON METROPOLIS TOMORROW... BUT INSTEAD OF BLANKS, YOUR GUNS WILL BE LOADED WITH REAL BULLETS!
DAILY PLANET
MOCK INVASION DUE TOMORROW
A CAPITAL IDEA, THIS FAKE INVASION!
IT WILL AWAKEN METROPOLIS AS NOTHING ELSE COULD!
ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE TO BROADCAST THE "INVASION" TO THE ENTIRE NATION!
NEXT MORNING...
FOLKS, YOU'D HAVE TO SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT, AND EVEN THEN YOU WOULD DOUBT YOUR EYES! ARMED NAZIS MARCHING INTO METROPOLIS! THE ENEMY ON OUR VERY DOORSTEP!
THE "INVADERS" LOSE NO TIME PERPETRATING ATROCITIES TYPICAL OF INVADING FASCISTS...
POLICE STATION
4
ASSEMBLED IN CITY HALL WITH BLAND AND CITY OFFICIALS, CLARK IS PRESENT WHEN THE "NAZIS" CHARGE IN....
NO RESISTANCE --YOU ARE ALL PRISONERS OF ADOLF HITLER!
THE LAD DEFINITELY HAS DRAMATIC TALENT!
I AM CARL BLAND, THE LOCAL QUISLING... YOU HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO OBEY MY ORDERS!
REALISTIC, EH?
TAKE THESE DEMOCRATIC DOLTS OUT INTO THE YARD AND EXECUTE THEM!
JAWOHL!— GET MOVING, DOGS!
THIS IS A LITTLE TOO REALISTIC FOR COMFORT.
AND THOSE ORDERS, HERR BLAND?
BY GEORGE, HE'S GOOD! HE SHOULD BE ON BROADWAY!
EVEN MORE REALISTIC THAN YOU REALIZE, CLARK!

(PUFF! PUFF!) WHY THE HARD LABOR?
WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE DIGGING OUR OWN GRAVES!
THIS ONE FIRST!
THE FIRST TIME I EVER PLACED FIRST IN A CONTEST... AND IT HAS TO BE AT A TIME LIKE THIS!
PARDON MY BARGING IN LIKE THIS, BUT MAY I HAVE A FEW WORDS FROM THE CONDEMNED MAN?
CERTAINLY!
FRIENDS OF THE RADIO AUDIENCE...I KNOW THIS IS ALL MAKE-BELIEVE... BUT EVEN SO I CAN'T HELP FEELING DISTURBED AT THE THOUGHT THAT SUCH A TERROR MIGHT EVER DESCEND ON OUR COUNTRY. IF SUCH A CALAMITY IS TO BE PREVENTED, IT'S UP TO YOU-- AND YOU!--AND YOU!
THROUGHOUT THE NATION, RADIO LISTENERS LISTEN TENSELY TO THE REALISTIC-SOUNDING DRAMA...
I'D DIE BEFORE I'D LET THOSE DIRTY NAZIS TRAMPLE ON OUR FREEDOM!
IT'S HORRIBLE!
IT MAKES ME FIGHTING MAD!
AND TO THINK I REFUSED TO OPEN MY FACTORY THIS MORNING.
BACK IN METROPOLIS, ONE OF THE SOLDIERS' RIFLES ACCIDENTALLY FIRES...AND AS IT DOES, CLARK IS ASTOUNDED TO SEE A BRANCH OVERHEAD SNAP IN TWO...
READY-- AIM....
(*-THOSE GUNS--THEY'RE LOADED WITH REAL BULLETS! WHAT TO DO? IF THEY STRIKE ME AND I APPEAR UNINJURED, IT WILL GIVE AWAY MY TRUE IDENTITY AS SUPERMAN!-")
FIRE!
THAT SOUND YOU JUST HEARD, FOLKS, WAS CLARK KENT SUPPOSEDLY BEING SLAIN BY A FIRING SQUAD. TO ADD A TOUCH OF REALISM, HE TOPPLED INTO THE GRAVE!
(*-SUPPOSEDLY SLAIN, EH? FOOL!-")
5

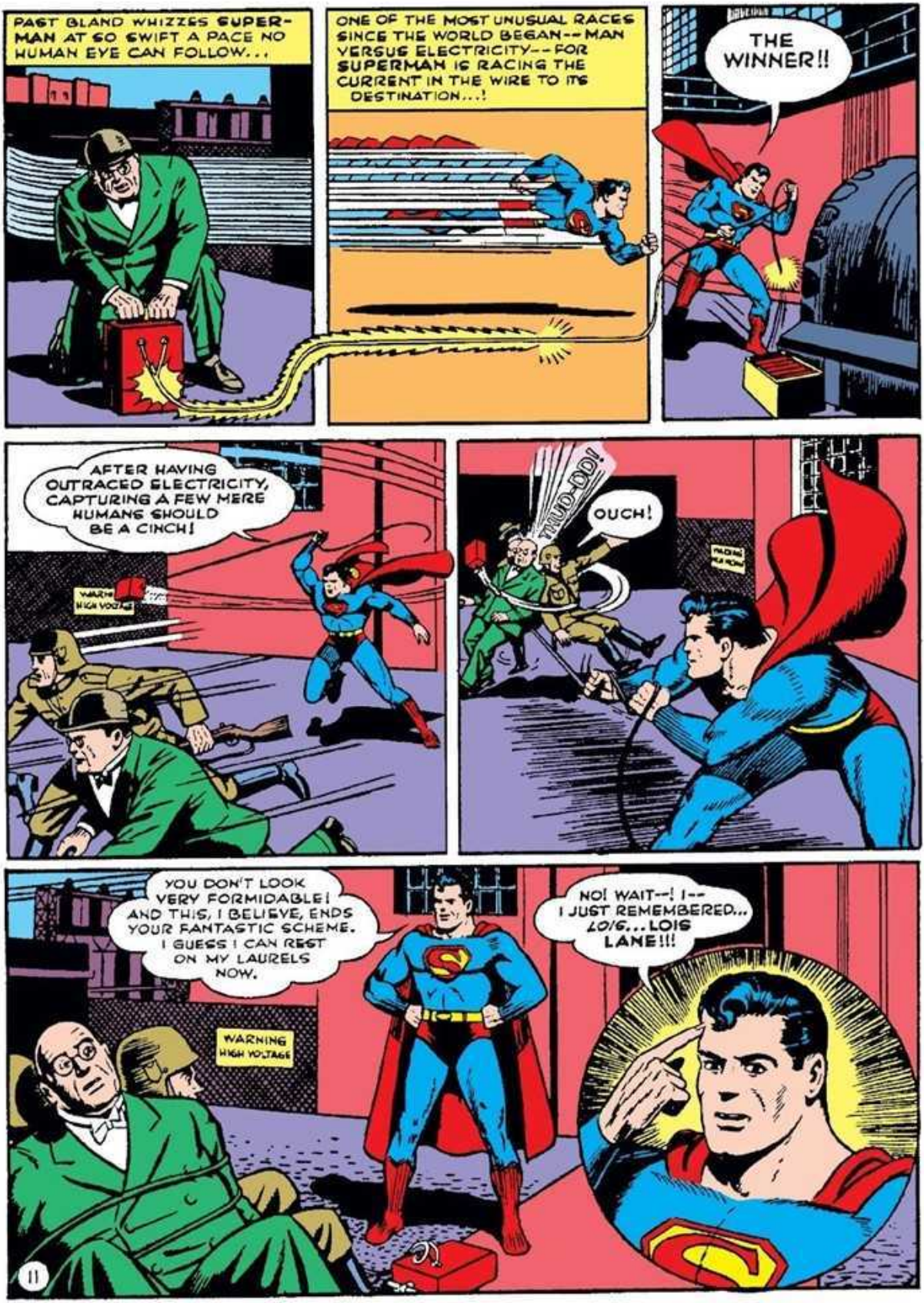
WHOSE TURN NEXT?
MINE! AS MAYOR OF THIS TOWN, I DEMAND TO BE SHOT NEXT! HA, HA!
VERY WELL. IF YOU INSIST!
AT THE BOTTOM OF HIS "GRAVE", CLARK KENT SWIFTLY SWITCHES TO THE FAMOUS SUPERMAN ACTION-COSTUME...
THE MAYOR THINKS IT JUST A JOKE-- BUT IF HE ONLY KNEW THE GRIM TURN THIS SHOW HAS TAKEN...
ONCE AGAIN, MEN! READY--
SORRY, BOYS-- BUT THIS MAKE-BELIEVE IS TOO MUCH FOR ME-- I FIND IT HARD TO KEEP A STRAIGHT FACE...
MEANWHILE-- SUPERMAN BURROWS UNDERGROUND AT A FRANTIC PACE...
THIS CALLS FOR QUICK THINKING-- QUICK ACTION-- AND A BRAND-NEW MANEUVER...!
IN SECONDS, HE HOLLOWS OUT A GREAT SPACE BENEATH THE GROUND'S SURFACE...
NOW TO WEAKEN THE UPPER SURFACE EVEN MORE...!
SO THAT AS THE FIRING SQUAD RELEASES ITS DEADLY MISSILES, THE GROUND UNEXPECTEDLY ENGULFS THEM...UPSETTING THEIR AIM...
FIRE!-- ACH!? WHAT--??
THE MEN-- FALLING INTO THE EARTH...!
WAS THIS ON THE PROGRAM?
MAYOR, TAKE TO COVER WITH THE OTHERS! THOSE MEN ARE ARMED WITH REAL BULLETS!
SOME SHOW, FOLKS! EVEN SUPERMAN IS TAKING PART IN IT! IF I DIDN'T KNOW BETTER, I'D SWEAR IT WASN'T MAKE-BELIEVE!
6

RETREATING INTO A RADIO-CAR, BLAND SENDS AN URGENT MESSAGE TO HIS NAZI COHORTS...
WARNING-- SUPERMAN IS ON TO OUR RUSE...THAT MEANS YOU MUST ALL ACHIEVE YOUR OBJECTIVES WITH MAXIMUM SPEED!
BUT SUPERMAN'S SUPER-SENSITIVE HEARING PICKS UP THE SHORT-WAVE BROADCAST...
AND THAT MEANS I'VE GOT TO WORK FASTER THAN EVER!
MEANWHILE, THE "PSEUDO-INVADERS" LOCK THE POLICEMEN OF METROPOLIS INSIDE CELLS OF THEIR OWN STATION.
IF THIS WERE A REAL INVASION, YOU CAN BE SURE WE WOULDN'T GIVE UP SO EASILY!
I'LL BET YOU WOULDN'T. HA, HA!
SWIFTLY, THE FIFTH COLUMNISTS HEAVE GASOLINE UPON THE STATION'S WALLS... THEN...
IT OUGHT TO MAKE A PRETTY BLAZE!
PLANNING TO BURN THEM, EH?
ALONG THE WALL RACES SUPERMAN SCOOPING UP THE GROUND BEFORE IT WITH ONE FURROWING HAND SO THAT THE FLAMES CANNOT REACH THE GASOLINE-SOAKED WALLS...
MAKE HIM PAY FOR HIS MEDDLING!
IF ANYONE'S GOING TO BURN UP, IT'S GOING TO BE YOU!
IT'S SUPERMAN!
I'LL BE GLAD TO-- IT'S MY TREAT!
THEY TRIED TO FIRE THE STATION-- BUT WHY?
BECAUSE THEY'RE PRO-NAZI! NEXT TIME DON'T BE SO TRUSTING!
7

AT THE CITY'S ARMORY....
INTO THE TRUCKS! WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF WEAPONS AND MUNITIONS--NOW LET'S GET THEM TO OUR COMRADES!
BUT AS THE TRUCKS BEGIN TO LEAVE THE ARMORY, A COLORFULLY COSTUMED FIGURE HURTLES DOWN INTO THEIR PATH...
MOVING DAY, EH?
THERE'VE BEEN SOME CHANGES MADE IN THE SCHEDULE! YOU'RE STAYING RIGHT HERE!
AMMUNITION
DESTROY HIM!
THAT'S EAGIER SAID THAN DONE!
EARLY TO BED!
HEY!
HE'S UP TO SOME TRICK!
NEATLY, SUPERMAN TIES THE ENDS OF THE CANVAS TOGETHER ...THEN, WITH THE AID OF SOME ROPE, COMPLETES HIS MANEUVER...
IT'S IN THE BAG!
MEANWHILE-- THE AIRPORT...
ONE OF THE "ENEMY" PLANES HAS JUST DROPPED THE FIRST "BOMB" IN THE MOCK ATTACK ON THE AIRPORT. BUT YOU NEED HAVE NO FEAR, LISTENERS --THAT SO-CALLED BOMB IS JUST A DUD!
GOOD GRIEF! THERE'S BEEN SOME TERRIBLE MISTAKE! THE BOMB EXPLODED-- A FEW FEET OVER AND IT WOULD HAVE STRUCK THE HANGAR!

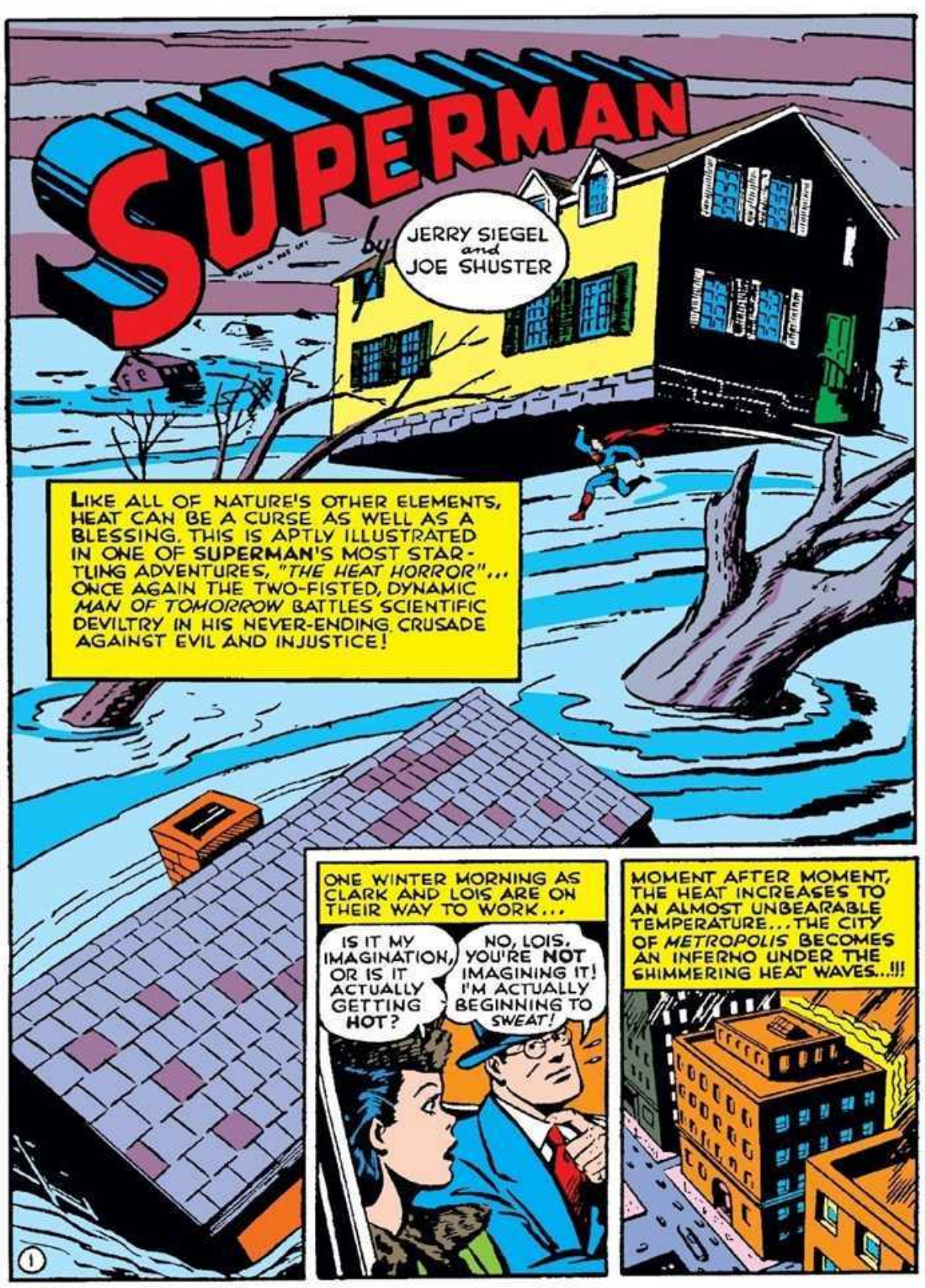
RETURNING TO FORMATION, THE ATTACKING PLANE JOINS THE OTHER WAR-VESSELS IN A PRECIPITATE DIVE...
AND AT THAT MOMENT--REACHING THE AIRPORT, SUPERMAN SHOUTS A WARNING IN SUCH DYNAMIC TONES HIS VOICE CARRIES FOR MILES...
CITIZENS OF METROPOLIS! THIS IS A REAL AIR RAID! RUN!
IT'S AMAZING--INCREDIBLE...THE DIVING PLANES ARE DROPPING DOZENS OF BOMBS--AND SUPERMAN IS SPRINGING UP TOWARD THEM...!!!
NEATLY, SUPERMAN ANNEXES THE FALLING PROJECTILES OF DESTRUCTION...
BUT, BEFORE HE CAN DODGE THE ZOOMING PLANES, THEY ARE UPON HIM... THERE IS AN EAR-SPLITTING SERIES OF EXPLOSIONS...
THE ATTACKING PLANES HAVE CRASHED TO THE GROUND--SUPERMAN WAS BURIED BENEATH THEM! IS THIS THE END OF THE MAN OF STEEL?
DEFINITELY NOT! IT WOULDN'T BE CRICKET FOR ME TO PERISH UNTIL MY CRUSADE IS CONCLUDED!
9

NOT DOING BAD AT ALL--BUT THERE'S STILL PLENTY MORE WORK TO DO! NEXT--THE CITY RESERVOIR!
I PITY ANY NAZIS WHO WOULD ATTEMPT TO THROW SOMETHING INTO THE RESERVOIR THAT WOULD POISON THE CITY'S WATER!
WE'D HATE TO BE IN THEIR SHOES!
YES-SIR... THEY'D HAVE A TOUGH TIME PUTTING SOMETHING OVER ON YOU!
NAUGHTY! MUSTN'T DO!
THAT UNIFORM--IT MUST BE SUPERMAN!
JUST TO ERASE THE SLIGHTEST DOUBT AS TO MY IDENTITY!
WHAT GOES ON HERE?
YIPE!
KEEP 'EM COVERED, POP! THAT REALLY WAS POISON THEY WERE GOING TO THROW INTO THE RESERVOIR!
SABOTEURS, EH? I'VE BEEN WAITIN' YEARS FOR THIS!
BLAND REACHES HIS GOAL—THE METROPOLIS ELECTRIC POWER PLANT...
WE'VE GOT TO WORK FAST--OUR SECRET'S OUT... AND THIS IS JUST WHERE WE CAN CAUSE THE MOST DAMAGE.
THIS PLANT SUPPLIES ALL THE DEFENSE FACTORIES IN THIS SECTION WITH POWER--IF IT WERE DESTROYED, IT WOULD CAUSE TREMENDOUS DAMAGE...
AND I'M HERE TO SEE YOU DON'T DESTROY IT!
YOU'RE TOO LATE!!
10


PAST BLAND WHIZZES SUPERMAN AT SO SWIFT A PACE NO HUMAN EYE CAN FOLLOW...
ONE OF THE MOST UNUSUAL RACES SINCE THE WORLD BEGAN--MAN VERSUS ELECTRICITY--FOR SUPERMAN IS RACING THE CURRENT IN THE WIRE TO ITS DESTINATION...!
THE WINNER!!
AFTER HAVING OUTRACED ELECTRICITY, CAPTURING A FEW MERE HUMANS SHOULD BE A CINCH!
WARNING HIGH VOLTAGE
THUD-DD!
OUCH!
YOU DON'T LOOK VERY FORMIDABLE! AND THIS, I BELIEVE, ENDS YOUR FANTASTIC SCHEME. I GUESS I CAN REST ON MY LAURELS NOW.
WARNING HIGH VOLTAGE
NO! WAIT--! I-- I JUST REMEMBERED... LOIS LANE!!!
11

SOME FUN! I'M SUPPOSED TO BE A FIFTH COLUMNIST ENTERING THE PLANET WITH A SUITCASE THAT THEORETICALLY CONTAINS A BOMB!
BUT--UNKNOWN TO LOIS --A REAL BOMB HAS BEEN PLACED IN THE SUITCASE!
HI' YA, KIDS! LOOK-- I'M A BIG BAD SABOTEUR AND I'M GONNA BLOW UP ALL OF US! AIN'T I TERRIBLE?
HOLY COW! IN THAT SUITCASE... A...A BOMB!!
GET RID OF IT! HAVEN'T YOU HEARD? THIS MOCK INVASION TURNED OUT TO BE THE REAL THING...BLAND CROSSED UP ALL OF US!
GOT TO REACH THE PLANET BUILDING--BEFORE LOIS AND THE OTHERS ARE DESTROYED!
HA! HA! I GET IT! I'M BEING RIBBED!
IT'S NO JOKE, LOIS!
THEY'RE TELLING YOU THE TRUTH, LOIS!
GIVE ME THAT SUITCASE!
SO YOU'RE IN ON THE JOKE, TOO! WELL, I'LL NOT FALL FOR IT!
THEN BOTH YOU AND THE SUITCASE ARE COMING WITH ME!
I CALL THIS STRETCHING A JOKE TOO FAR!
12

FOR THE LAST TIME-- GIVE ME THAT SUITCASE!
YOU'LL NOT GET IT FROM ME-- THERE, I'VE THROWN IT AWAY!
DOWN PLUMMETS THE SUITCASE-- AND AS IT PLUNGES BENEATH THE RIVER...
THERE REALLY WAS A BOMB IN THE SUITCASE! WHY DIDN'T SOMEONE TELL ME?
WHAT DO YOU THINK EVERYONE WAS DOING?
AFTER SUPERMAN SPRINGS OFF....
I WANT YOU TO INVESTIGATE A REPORT THAT CLARK WAS EXECUTED BY THE FIFTH COLUMNISTS OUTSIDE CITY HALL!
WHEW! IF SUPERMAN HADN'T TAKEN MATTERS INTO HIS OWN HANDS, WE'D ALL HAVE BEEN BLOWN TO BITS!
CLARK KILLED? OH!
SPEEDING BACK INTO THE OPEN GRAVE, SUPERMAN CHANGES BACK TO HIS IDENTITY AS CLARK KENT...
LUCKY FOR ME EVERYONE WAS SO EXCITED, NO ONE THOUGHT OF LOOKING INTO THE PIT!
CLARK! ALIVE!
I TOPPLED INTO THE PIT A SECOND BEFORE THE SHOTS WERE FIRED. I GUESS THE FALL MUST HAVE KNOCKED ME UNCONSCIOUS!
DAILY PLANET
MOCK INVASION REAL THING; SUPERMAN FOILS SABOTAGE PLOT
AND TO THINK WE HELPED SPONSOR THE "INVASION" IN THE HOPE THAT IT WOULD AWAKEN THE PUBLIC TO ITS PERIL!
THAT HOPE HAS BEEN REALIZED! THE REAL INVASION HAS JOLTED THE PUBLIC'S INDIFFERENCE!
EVERYONE IS NOW CO-OPERATING BEAUTIFULLY. IT'S ALL OUT TO BEAT THE AXIS! AND THAT'S THE WAY SUPERMAN WOULD WANT IT!
THE END
13


SUPERMAN
by
JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
LIKE ALL OF NATURE'S OTHER ELEMENTS, HEAT CAN BE A CURSE AS WELL AS A BLESSING. THIS IS APTLY ILLUSTRATED IN ONE OF SUPERMAN'S MOST STARTLING ADVENTURES, "THE HEAT HORROR"... ONCE AGAIN THE TWO-FISTED, DYNAMIC MAN OF TOMORROW BATTLES SCIENTIFIC DEVILTRY IN HIS NEVER-ENDING CRUSADE AGAINST EVIL AND INJUSTICE!
ONE WINTER MORNING AS CLARK AND LOIS ARE ON THEIR WAY TO WORK...
IS IT MY IMAGINATION, OR IS IT ACTUALLY GETTING HOT?
NO, LOIS, YOU'RE NOT IMAGINING IT! I'M ACTUALLY BEGINNING TO SWEAT!
MOMENT AFTER MOMENT, THE HEAT INCREASES TO AN ALMOST UNBEARABLE TEMPERATURE... THE CITY OF METROPOLIS BECOMES AN INFERNO UNDER THE SHIMMERING HEAT WAVES..!!!
1

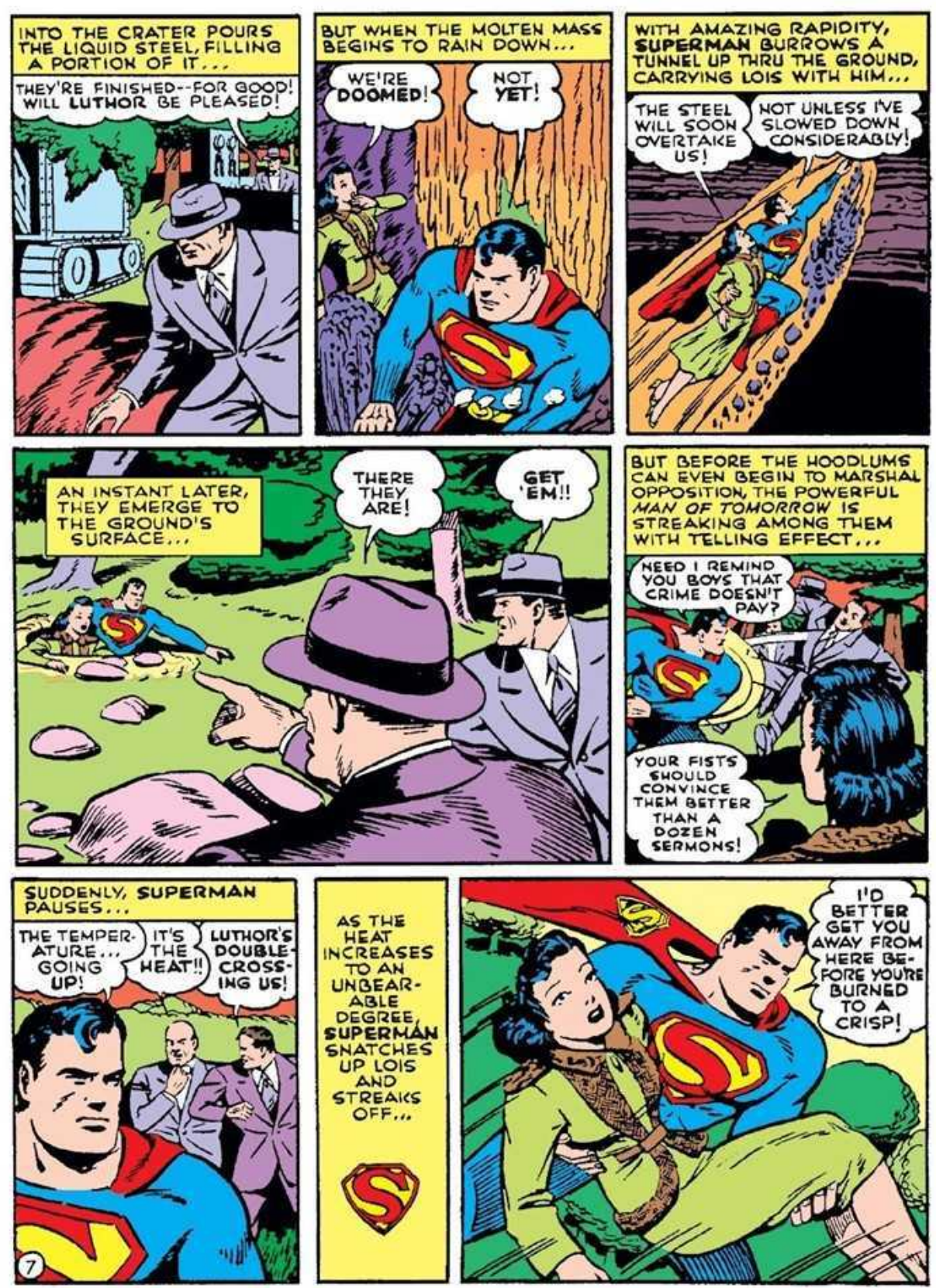
CLARK--THE HEAT... I CAN HARDLY BREATHE!
I--I CAN'T UNDER-STAND IT!
THEN...AS MYSTERIOUSLY AS IT CAME, THE HEAT VANISHES..
I...I... I FEEL MUCH BETTER NOW!
THAT UNPRECE-DENTED WAVE OF HEAT! WHAT COULD HAVE CAUSED IT?
WHEN THEY REACH THE NEWSPAPER OFFICE...
A TIP'S COME OVER THE TEL-EPHONE... SO SCREWY I'M TEMPTED TO DISREGARD IT. BUT--DASH OUT TO KEN MELLOW'S FARM ON ROUTE 21 AND SEE IF WHAT HE HAS TO SAY AND SHOW YOU MAKES SENSE.
SOUNDS MYSTER-IOUS.
I LIKE MYSTERIES! LET'S GO!
AND LATER...
YOU TELEPHONED THE PLANET THAT SOMETHING UNUSUAL HAD TAKEN PLACE ON YOUR FARM.
YES, I WON'T TRY TO EX-PLAIN IT! JUST YOU FOLLOW ME AND SEE FOR YOUR-SELF!
THEN LET'S HURRY! I'M DYING OF CURIOSITY!
AS THE FARMER LEADS THE TWO REPORT-ERS TO HIS FIELDS, THE SCENE HE INDI-CATES CAUSESTHEM TO GASP IN DISBELIEF...
INCREDIBLE!
I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EYES!
NEITHER COULD I, BUT THERE IT IS!
BURNT INTO THE FIELD-- AN OMINOUS MESSAGE....
THE FIRST HEAT WAVE WAS JUST A WARNING BUT UNLESS METROPOLIS IS EVACUATED WITHIN 48 HOURS I WILL STRIKE TO KILL!!
2
WHAT KIND OF A HOAX IS THIS??
I--I'M AFRAID IT ISN'T A HOAX! THAT TERRIFIC WAVE OF HEAT IS REAL ENOUGH. SOMEONE'S DEADLY SERIOUS WHEN HE SAYS HE'LL BURN THE TOWN TO A CRISP IF ITS CIT-IZENS DON'T IMMEDIATELY CLEAR OUT!
WISH I KNEW WHO IT WAS! RUIN MY FIELDS, WILL HE? I'D LIKE TO JAB HIM WITH THIS PITCHFORK WHERE IT WOULD DO THE MOST GOOD!
DAILY
METROPOLIS THREATENED; EVACUATION IS DEMANDED

LOIS RETURNS TO HER APARTMENT AT LUNCH-TIME TO FIND...
A NOTE ON THE TABLE, WONDER HOW IT GOT THERE?
G-GOLLY!!
IF YOU WISH TO LEARN WHAT CAUSED THE HEAT WAVE, COME TO THE EDGE OF DIGBY WOODS NEAR FELLOWS AVENUE...
WHAT A SWELL BREAK! I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO SEE CLARK'S FACE WHEN HE READS MY SIGNED ARTICLE CLEARING UP THIS MYSTERY!
WHEN LOIS REACHES THE WOODS...
THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANYONE HERE! AM I THE VICTIM OF A PRACTICAL JOKE?
DARTING OUT SUDDENLY FROM THEIR HIDING PLACE, THUGS SEIZE THE GIRL REPORTER...
LET GO!
AFTER WE WENT TO ALL TH' TROUBLE OF LURING YOU HERE? NOTHING DOING!
QUICK! INTO THE WOODS WITH HER BEFORE WE'RE SEEN!
LED INTO THE WOODS, LOIS IS FORCED INTO A STEEL-BARRED CAGE...
CONTACT THE BOSS!
CALLING LUTHOR..!
LUTHOR ANSWERING! REPORT!
WE'VE CAPTURED THE GIRL, BOSS! SHALL WE PROCEED?
IMMEDIATELY. SUPERMAN WILL COME TO HER AID AND I'LL RID MYSELF OF HIS POSSIBLE INTERFERENCE IN MY LATEST BID FOR POWER!
3

LOIS' CAGE IS HOISTED HIGH OVER A PIT, THEN ATTACHED TO A TIME-MECHANISM WHICH SLOWLY LOWERS THE CAGE TOWARD THE CRATER...
HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE FOR HER TO BE LOWERED INTO THE PIT?
ABOUT FIVE MINUTES!
GLANCING DOWNWARD, LOIS SPIES A HORDE OF ROARING LIONS...
LOWER... CLOSER TO THOSE LIONS EACH MOMENT! AND IT'S ALL A TRAP FOR SUPERMAN! WHAT A FOOL I WAS TO FALL FOR IT!
CLIMBING A TELEPHONE POLE, ONE OF THE THUGS ATTACHES A PORTABLE TELEPHONE....
GET ME THE DAILY PLANET!
WHAT'S THAT??-- HAVEN'T YOU ANYTHING BETTER TO DO THAN BOTHER BUSY PEOPLE?
WHAT IS IT, CHIEF?
SOME PEST. HE ACTUALLY TRIED TO MAKE ME BELIEVE THAT LOIS HAS ONLY FIVE MINUTES TO LIVE!
YOU'RE BEING KIDDED, WHITE!
4
BUT ONCE HE IS ALONE, CLARK'S LAUGHTER IS REPLACED WITH GRAVE ANXIETY...
THERE'S A POSSIBILITY THAT IT MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN A JOKE, AFTER ALL!
A TREMENDOUS LEAP LAUNCHES THE MIGHTY MAN OF TOMORROW HIGH INTO THE SKY...
I'D BETTER TAKE NO CHANCES-- I'LL CHECK UP!

REACHING LOIS' APARTMENT, SUPERMAN FINDS THE NOTE...
THE DIGBY WOODS, EH... I'M AFRAID LOIS FELL INTO A TRAP!
AS THE CAGE IS ALMOST LEVEL WITH THE PIT, THE LIONS LEAP UPWARD, ATTEMPTING TO GET AT THEIR HUMAN PREY...
SUPPOSE SUPERMAN DOESN'T SHOW UP?
THAT'S HER HARD LUCK!
TOWARD THE WOODS SPEEDS THE MIGHTY MAN OF STEEL AT RECORD-SMASHING PACE...
IF ONLY I'M NOT TOO LATE!
HE'S COMING!!
THEN HERE GOES!
THE BOTTOM OF THE CAGE SWINGS OPEN, DOWN PLUMMETS LOIS TOWARD THE ROARING LIONS...
EEE-EEEE!
DON'T YOU KNOW BETTER THAN TO PAY ANY ATTENTION TO ANONYMOUS NOTES?
SUPERMAN!
AS THEY ALIGHT AT THE PIT'S BOTTOM, SUPERMAN FACES THE LIONS' CHARGE...
THEY'RE ATTACKING!
LET THEM COME!
5

WADING INTO THE ADVANCING BEASTS, SUPERMAN SMASHES THEM ASIDE...
WHERE ARE YOUR MANNERS?
HIS STEEL-LIKE FISTS ARE TOO MUCH FOR THE CREATURES, THEY SCATTER IN TERROR...
WAIT! THE BATTLE ISN'T OVER YET!
THE SOONER IT'S OVER THE BETTER I'LL LIKE IT!
BUT AS ONE OF THE LIONS SPRINGS FOR LOIS...
HELP!
COMING!
SNATCHING THE ANGRY BEAST'S TAIL, SUPERMAN WHIRLS IT ABOUT...
'ROUND AND 'ROUND YOU GO--
MY CHANCE TO GET HIM!
A FLIP OF SUPERMAN'S WRIST SENDS THE LION HURTLING STRAIGHT UP AT THE THUG...
YOU WANTED TROUBLE! HERE IT IS!
AS A THUG OPERATES THE SWITCHBOARD, A CAMOUFLAGED LADLE POURS MOLTEN LEAD DOWN INTO THE PIT...
LET HIM ESCAPE THAT...!!
6


INTO THE CRATER POURS THE LIQUID STEEL, FILLING A PORTION OF IT...
THEY'RE FINISHED--FOR GOOD! WILL LUTHOR BE PLEASED!
BUT WHEN THE MOLTEN MASS BEGINS TO RAIN DOWN...
WE'RE DOOMED!
NOT YET!
WITH AMAZING RAPIDITY, SUPERMAN BURROWS A TUNNEL UP THRU THE GROUND, CARRYING LOIS WITH HIM...
THE STEEL WILL SOON OVERTAKE US!
NOT UNLESS I'VE SLOWED DOWN CONSIDERABLY!
AN INSTANT LATER, THEY EMERGE TO THE GROUND'S SURFACE...
THERE THEY ARE!
GET 'EM!!
BUT BEFORE THE HOODLUMS CAN EVEN BEGIN TO MARSHAL OPPOSITION, THE POWERFUL MAN OF TOMORROW IS STREAKING AMONG THEM WITH TELLING EFFECT...
NEED I REMIND YOU BOYS THAT CRIME DOESN'T PAY?
YOUR FISTS SHOULD CONVINCE THEM BETTER THAN A DOZEN SERMONS!
SUDDENLY, SUPERMAN PAUSES...
THE TEMPERATURE... GOING UP!
IT'S THE HEAT!!
LUTHOR'S DOUBLE-CROSSING US!
AS THE HEAT INCREASES TO AN UNBEARABLE DEGREE, SUPERMAN SNATCHES UP LOIS AND STREAKS OFF...
I'D BETTER GET YOU AWAY FROM HERE BEFORE YOU'RE BURNED TO A CRISP!
7

AS THE *MAN OF TOMORROW* RACES A SHORT DISTANCE WITH LOIS, THEY FEEL THE HEAT SUBSIDE...

IT SEEMS TO BE GETTING COOLER!

LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENED BACK THERE!

GLANCING BACK, THE TWO SIGHT A LANDSCAPE PARCHED AND BURNT BLACK WHERE PREVIOUSLY THERE HAD BEEN FERTILE SOIL AND LUSH VEGETATION...

COMPLETELY DESTROYED!

HOW AWFUL! AND IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR YOUR INCREDIBLE SWIFTNESS...!

LEAPING BACK TO THE HEART OF THE CITY, **SUPERMAN** WITNESSES A STRANGE EXODUS...

BELOW...THE ROADS JAMMED WITH PEOPLE FRANTICALLY FLEEING THE CITY...

LEAVING HOMES... JOBS...ALL BECAUSE OF ONE EVIL FIEND'S INSANE DESIRE FOR POWER AND LOOT!

THANKS FOR A WONDERFUL YARN!

DON'T MENTION IT!

SHORTLY AFTER... LOIS ENCOUNTERS CLARK KENT IN THE NEWSPAPER OFFICE...

AND WHERE ARE **YOU** GOING IN SUCH A HURRY?

I'M GOING TO PACK MY THINGS AND LEAVE TOWN, AT ONCE!

YOU WOULD! BUT AS FOR ME, I'M STAYING RIGHT HERE IN THE HOPE THAT SOMETHING WILL TURN UP TO RUIN **LUTHOR'S** PLANS!

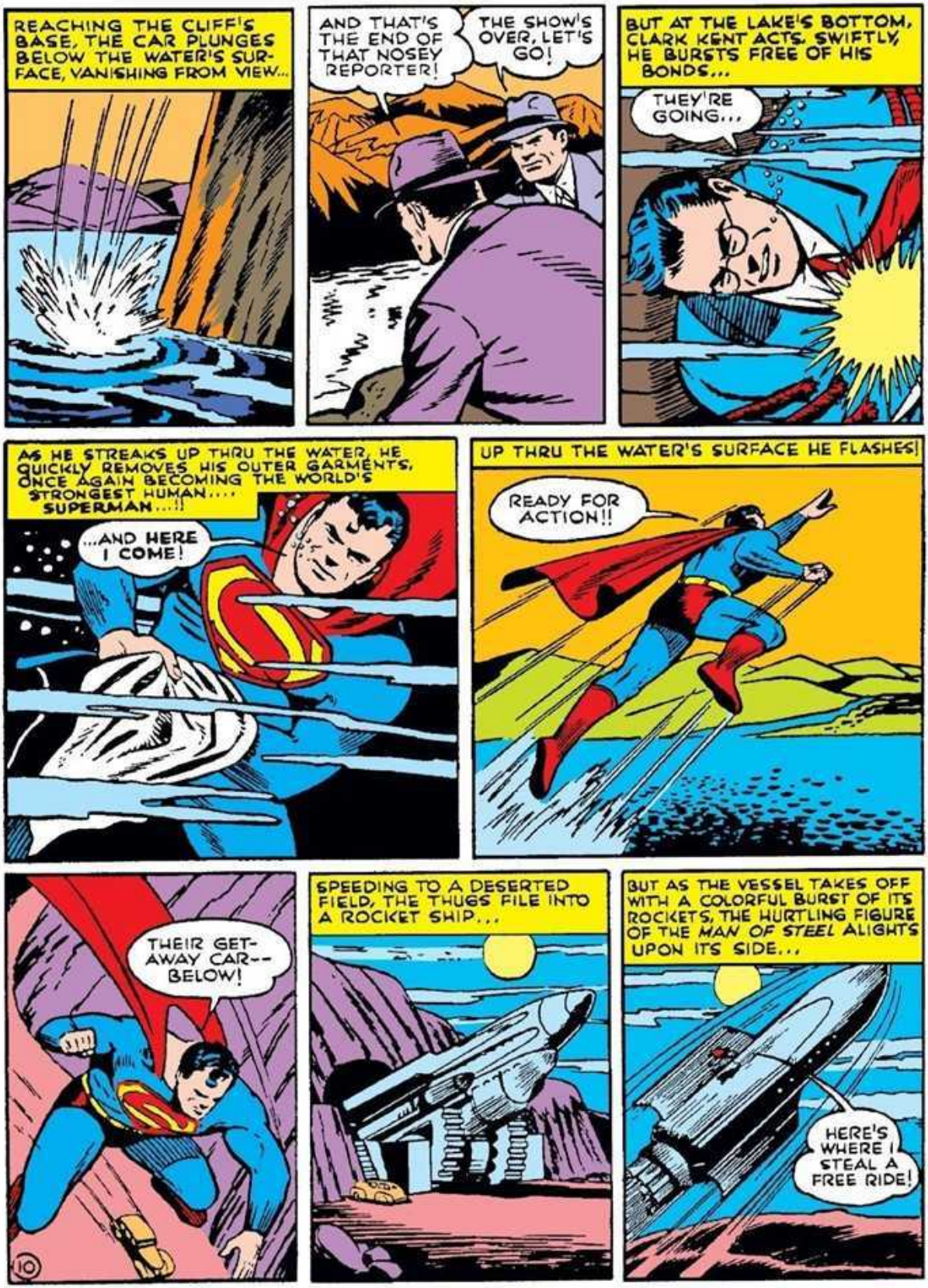
I ADMIRE YOUR NERVE, LOIS--BUT I'M AFRAID I'M NOT BUILT THAT WAY! GOOD LUCK!

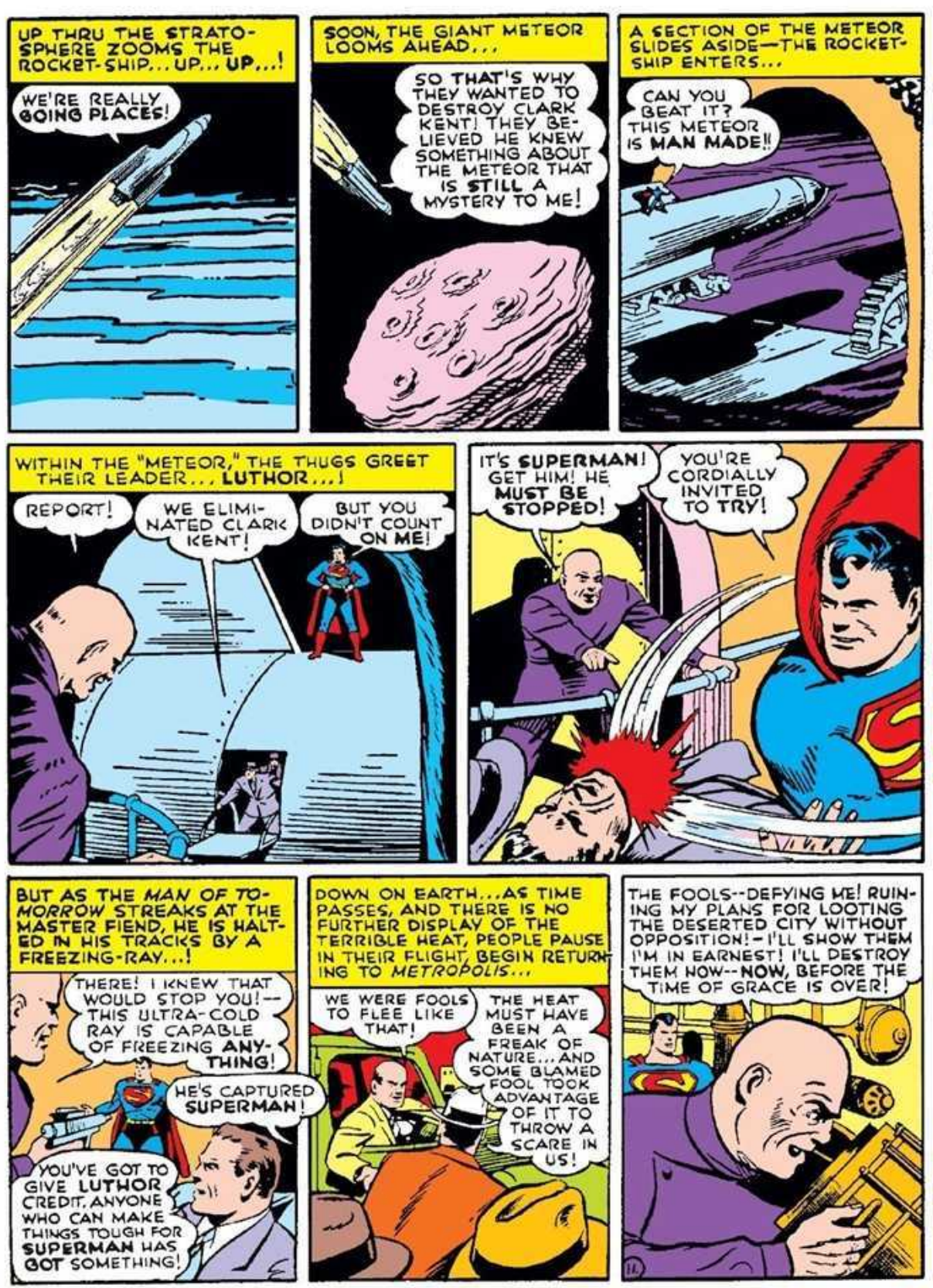
BUT SOMETHING IN THE NEWSPAPER'S LATEST EDITION CATCHES CLARK'S EYE...

PROFESSOR GLENN CALLOWAY, THE EMINENT ASTRONOMER, CLAIMS A GIANT METEOR HAS ENTERED OUR SOLAR SYSTEM. HM-MMM...

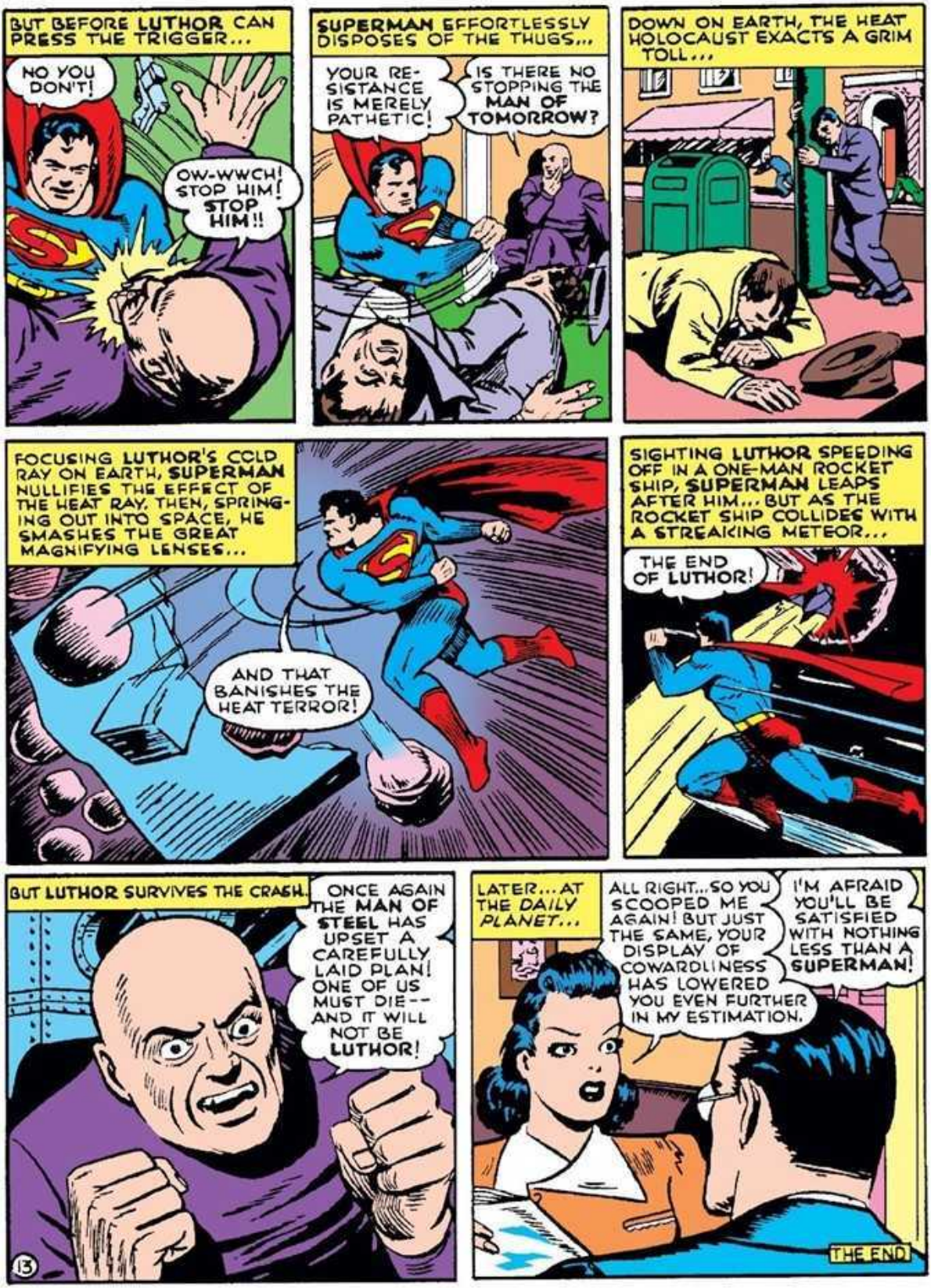
I'M GOING CALLING ON THE PROFESSOR. THERE'S JUST THE SLIGHTEST CHANCE THAT THIS METEOR HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE UNPRECEDENTED WAVE OF HEAT!

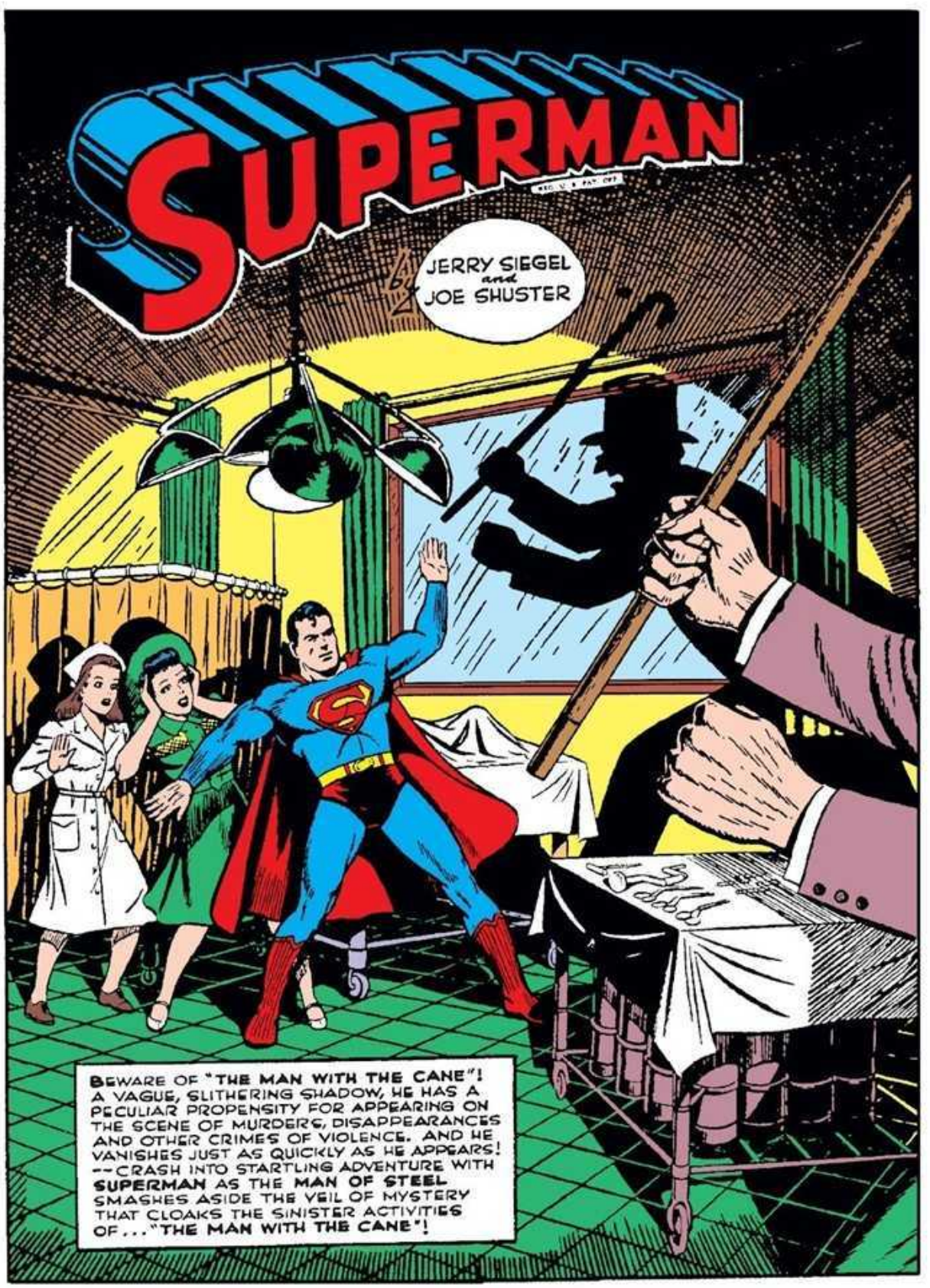
WHEN CLARK REACHES THE ASTRONOMER'S OBSERVATORY...
YOU'RE CERTAIN ABOUT THIS NEW METEOR?
COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF!
SEE IT?
I CERTAINLY DO!
BUT, UNKNOWN TO THE ASTRONOMER, CLARK'S VISION IS EVEN MORE POWERFUL THAN THE TELESCOPE'S.
THE REPORTER IS ABLE TO SCAN THE SPACE-WANDERER'S SURFACE WITH ALMOST MICROSCOPIC THOROUGHNESS...
YOU'LL SUBSTANTIATE MY DISCOVERY IN THE NEWSPAPER, WON'T YOU?
YES...IF THE NEWSPAPER STILL IS IN EXISTENCE AFTER TOMORROW. ("-WHAT A DISAPPOINTMENT. EXAMINATION OF THAT METEOR SHOWED NOTHING OF UNUSUAL INTEREST.-")
BUT AS CLARK LEAVES THE LABORATORY...
INTO THAT CAR!
BUT WHY --?
NO QUESTIONS. DO AS HE SAYS!
TIGHTLY BOUND, CLARK IS PLACED IN THE REAR OF ONE OF THE TWO AUTOS...
BUT WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS TO ME?
WE HAD YOU UNDER CLOSE SURVEILLANCE --WHEN WE SAW YOU ENTER THE OBSERVATORY, WE KNEW YOU WERE GETTING TOO CLOSE TO THE TRUTH!
SO THERE'S NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO DESTROY YOU!!
THE CARS COME TO A STOP. IN A CONCERTED EFFORT, THE THUGS FORCE THE AUTO IMPRISONING CLARK OVER THE CLIFF'S SIDE...
ALL TOGETHER NOW!
SHOVE!
THERE IT GOES!
DOWN THE SHARP DECLINE SPEEDS THE AUTO, THEN, AS IT STRIKES A BOULDER, IT WHIRLS END OVER END...
9


REACHING THE CLIFF'S BASE, THE CAR PLUNGES BELOW THE WATER'S SURFACE, VANISHING FROM VIEW...
AND THAT'S THE END OF THAT NOSEY REPORTER!
THE SHOW'S OVER, LET'S GO!
BUT AT THE LAKE'S BOTTOM, CLARK KENT ACTS. SWIFTLY, HE BURSTS FREE OF HIS BONDS...
THEY'RE GOING...
AS HE STREAKS UP THRU THE WATER, HE QUICKLY REMOVES HIS OUTER GARMENTS, ONCE AGAIN BECOMING THE WORLD'S STRONGEST HUMAN.... SUPERMAN...!!
...AND HERE I COME!
UP THRU THE WATER'S SURFACE HE FLASHES!
READY FOR ACTION!!
THEIR GET-AWAY CAR--BELOW!
SPEEDING TO A DESERTED FIELD, THE THUGS FILE INTO A ROCKET SHIP...
BUT AS THE VESSEL TAKES OFF WITH A COLORFUL BURST OF ITS ROCKETS, THE HURTLING FIGURE OF THE MAN OF STEEL ALIGHTS UPON ITS SIDE...
HERE'S WHERE I STEAL A FREE RIDE!
10


UP THRU THE STRATO-SPHERE ZOOMS THE ROCKET-SHIP... UP... UP...!
WE'RE REALLY GOING PLACES!
SOON, THE GIANT METEOR LOOMS AHEAD...
SO THAT'S WHY THEY WANTED TO DESTROY CLARK KENT! THEY BE-LIEVED HE KNEW SOMETHING ABOUT THE METEOR THAT IS STILL A MYSTERY TO ME!
A SECTION OF THE METEOR SLIDES ASIDE—THE ROCKET-SHIP ENTERS...
CAN YOU BEAT IT? THIS METEOR IS MAN MADE!!
WITHIN THE "METEOR," THE THUGS GREET THEIR LEADER... LUTHOR...!
REPORT!
WE ELIMI-NATED CLARK KENT!
BUT YOU DIDN'T COUNT ON ME!
IT'S SUPERMAN! GET HIM! HE MUST BE STOPPED!
YOU'RE CORDIALLY INVITED TO TRY!
BUT AS THE MAN OF TO-MORROW STREAKS AT THE MASTER FIEND, HE IS HALT-ED IN HIS TRACKS BY A FREEZING-RAY...!
THERE! I KNEW THAT WOULD STOP YOU!—THIS ULTRA-COLD RAY IS CAPABLE OF FREEZING ANY-THING!
HE'S CAPTURED SUPERMAN!
YOU'VE GOT TO GIVE LUTHOR CREDIT, ANYONE WHO CAN MAKE THINGS TOUGH FOR SUPERMAN HAS GOT SOMETHING!
DOWN ON EARTH...AS TIME PASSES, AND THERE IS NO FURTHER DISPLAY OF THE TERRIBLE HEAT, PEOPLE PAUSE IN THEIR FLIGHT, BEGIN RETURN-ING TO METROPOLIS...
WE WERE FOOLS TO FLEE LIKE THAT!
THE HEAT MUST HAVE BEEN A FREAK OF NATURE... AND SOME BLAMED FOOL TOOK ADVANTAGE OF IT TO THROW A SCARE IN US!
THE FOOLS--DEFYING ME! RUIN-ING MY PLANS FOR LOOTING THE DESERTED CITY WITHOUT OPPOSITION!—I'LL SHOW THEM I'M IN EARNEST! I'LL DESTROY THEM NOW--NOW, BEFORE THE TIME OF GRACE IS OVER!

UNDER LUTHOR'S MANIPULATION, THE SIDE OF THE METEOR OPENS...
...AND MASSIVE MAGNIFYING LENSES MOVE INTO POSITION...
WITH THESE GREAT LENSES, I FOCUS THE SUN'S RAYS AT ANY SPOT ON EARTH I DESIRE. SO POWERFUL ARE THE HEAT RAYS THAT I CAN BURN ANY TERRITORY OUT OF EXISTENCE, AND THAT'S JUST WHAT I AM GOING TO DO TO METROPOLIS! I'LL SHOW THEM IT DOESN'T PAY TO DEFY LUTHOR!
BLAZING, SCORCHING, UNBEARABLE HEAT BEATS DOWN UPON HELPLESS METROPOLIS... THE CITY BECOMES A FURNACE...
THE HEAT FIEND HAS STRUCK AGAIN!
IT'S DOOMSDAY!
WE'LL NEVER ESCAPE ALIVE!!!
BURN--BURN, YOU IDIOTIC FOOLS! YOU HAD YOUR CHANCE--BUT YOU CHOSE TO PERISH... SO... BURN... BURN!!!
STRAINING WITH ALL HIS MIGHT, SUPERMAN SEEKS TO THROW OFF THE EFFECTS OF THE COLD RAY...
HE SUCCEEDS...!!
YOU DEVIL!
SO YOU'RE FREE, EH? BUT ANOTHER BLAST FROM THIS WEAPON SHOULD ATTEND TO YOU!
12


BUT BEFORE LUTHOR CAN PRESS THE TRIGGER...
NO YOU DON'T!
OW-WWCH! STOP HIM! STOP HIM!!
SUPERMAN EFFORTLESSLY DISPOSES OF THE THUGS...
YOUR RESISTANCE IS MERELY PATHETIC!
IS THERE NO STOPPING THE MAN OF TOMORROW?
DOWN ON EARTH, THE HEAT HOLOCAUST EXACTS A GRIM TOLL...
FOCUSING LUTHOR'S COLD RAY ON EARTH, SUPERMAN NULLIFIES THE EFFECT OF THE HEAT RAY. THEN, SPRINGING OUT INTO SPACE, HE SMASHES THE GREAT MAGNIFYING LENSES...
AND THAT BANISHES THE HEAT TERROR!
SIGHTING LUTHOR SPEEDING OFF IN A ONE-MAN ROCKET SHIP, SUPERMAN LEAPS AFTER HIM... BUT AS THE ROCKET SHIP COLLIDES WITH A STREAKING METEOR...
THE END OF LUTHOR!
BUT LUTHOR SURVIVES THE CRASH.
ONCE AGAIN THE MAN OF STEEL HAS UPSET A CAREFULLY LAID PLAN! ONE OF US MUST DIE-- AND IT WILL NOT BE LUTHOR!
13
LATER... AT THE DAILY PLANET...
ALL RIGHT... SO YOU SCOOPED ME AGAIN! BUT JUST THE SAME, YOUR DISPLAY OF COWARDLINESS HAS LOWERED YOU EVEN FURTHER IN MY ESTIMATION.
I'M AFRAID YOU'LL BE SATISFIED WITH NOTHING LESS THAN A SUPERMAN!
THE END


SUPERMAN
by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
BEWARE OF "THE MAN WITH THE CANE"! A VAGUE, SLITHERING SHADOW, HE HAS A PECULIAR PROPENSITY FOR APPEARING ON THE SCENE OF MURDERS, DISAPPEARANCES AND OTHER CRIMES OF VIOLENCE. AND HE VANISHES JUST AS QUICKLY AS HE APPEARS! --CRASH INTO STARTLING ADVENTURE WITH SUPERMAN AS THE MAN OF STEEL SMASHES ASIDE THE VEIL OF MYSTERY THAT CLOAKS THE SINISTER ACTIVITIES OF..."THE MAN WITH THE CANE"!

IN THE INNER SANCTUM OF PERRY WHITE, EDITOR-PUBLISHER OF THE DAILY PLANET...
I'M A TIRED MAN--AN ILL MAN. I SHOULD HAVE TAKEN A VACATION YEARS AGO...AND BY GOLLY, I'LL DO IT NOW!
STRIDING INTO THE CITY ROOM, WHITE PAUSES AS AN INTERESTING CONVERSATION REACHES HIS EARS...
HM-MMM.
POOR LOIS! STILL GIVING OUT ADVICE TO THE LOVE-LORN UNDER THE PSEUDONYM OF "MISS HENKEL." OH, WELL, I GUESS WE CAN'T ALL BE STAR REPORTERS!
IF I WERE RUNNING THIS NEWSPAPER, THINGS AROUND HERE WOULD BE VERY DIFFERENT INDEED!
SEND IN LOIS LANE. (*-THAT GIRL'S DUE FOR A SURPRISE!-*)
LOIS--IVE DECIDED TO TAKE A VACATION.
AN EXCELLENT IDEA. YOU'RE LOOKING RUN-DOWN LATELY.
NATURALLY, SOMEONE HAS TO WATCH OVER THINGS WHILE I'M GONE. I'VE DECIDED TO PLACE YOU IN CHARGE!
ME? SURELY YOU'RE KIDDING!
NOT AT ALL. EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, AND UNTIL MY RETURN FROM MY VACATION, YOU'RE THE BOSS HERE!... WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
TO ISSUE MY FIRST ORDER!
2

SO YOU WANT TO READ THE ARTICLE I'M WORKING ON. I'M FLATTERED! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF IT?
NOT BAD. NOT BAD AT ALL!
I LIKE, ESPECIALLY, THE HUMAN INTEREST ANGLE... THE WAY YOU STIR THE READERS' EMOTIONS. I COULDN'T DO A BETTER JOB MYSELF!
PRAISE FROM YOU! THIS IS INDEED A SURPRISE!
IN FACT, I THINK YOU'RE SO GOOD AT DISHING OUT THE SOB STUFF THAT I HEREBY PROMOTE YOU TO WRITING THE LOVELORN COLUMN!
HA! HA! THAT WOULD BE FUNNY, WOULDN'T IT? ME, WRITING THE LOVELORN COLUMN!
IT'S A FACT, LAUGHING BOY, I'M IN CHARGE HERE NOW AND I OFFICIALLY DUB YOU "MISS HENKEL"!
THERE'S SUCH A THING AS CARRYING A JOKE TOO FAR!
BUT IT'S NO JOKE, CLARK. I'VE PLACED LOIS IN CHARGE WHILE I'M AWAY-- AND WHATEVER SHE SAYS GOES!
BUT THIS IS ABSURD! I'VE BEEN THIS NEWSPAPER'S STAR REPORTER FOR YEARS! YOU CAN'T...
BUT I CAN! A LESSON IN HUMILITY WILL DO YOU GOOD, CLARK! SO LONG!
HOW ABOUT A DATE TONIGHT, MISS HENKEL?
DEAR MISS HENKEL: WHAT SORT OF HAIR-DO WOULD YOU SUGGEST FOR AN ASPIRING GLAMOR GIRL?
CUT IT OUT! SCRAM!
BUT WHEN LOIS TAKES OVER THE EDITOR'S DUTIES...
I'M GOING CRAZY! ONE AT A TIME, PLEASE!
OKAY THIS!
WHAT SHALL I DO ABOUT THAT LIBEL SUIT?
THE MAYOR IS ON THE TELEPHONE.
MEANWHILE, CLARK HAS BEEN SCANNING THE LOVELORN-COLUMN'S FANMAIL WITH UNHAPPY EYES--BUT SUDDENLY...
WELL, WHAT DO YOU KNOW--!
MISS HENKEL
3

Dear Miss Henkel:
My problem is so difficult that only a Superman could aid me. Is there any way I could get in touch with the Man of Tomorrow?
Rita Allen
11 Dale Ave.
Metropolis
UNOBSERVED, CLARK KENT SWITCHES TO THE IDENTITY OF THE WORLD'S FOREMOST CRIME CRUSADER...
SUPERMAN NEVER DISAPPOINTS A LADY!
THAT ADDRESS IS ONLY A FEW BLOCKS AWAY.
AS HE NEARS HIS DESTINATION, SUPERMAN AVAILS HIMSELF OF HIS MIRACULOUS TELESCOPIC X-RAY VISION AND SIGHTS...
LET ME GO!
HANDS OFF!
AWK! SUPERMAN!
CORRECT!
OWW-WW!
YOU'VE COME!
THE THUG FIRES REPEATEDLY--BUT EACH TIME THE BULLET NEARS ITS TARGET SUPERMAN IS SOMEWHERE ELSE...
STAND STILL!
IN THIS DAY AND AGE, MY LAD, SPEED IS THE THING!
LIKE THIS!
4

HOW--HOW DID YOU KNOW I NEEDED YOUR AID?
MISS HENKEL IS A FRIEND OF MINE. WHAT'S TROUBLING YOU?
I CAME TO THE BIG CITY ONLY A SHORT TIME AGO AND KNOW VERY FEW PEOPLE. WHEN I WAS INTRODUCED TO JOHN FLEMING AT A LECTURE, I WAS GLAD TO ACCEPT HIS OFFERS FOR DATES.
"--IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE WE WERE GOING TOGETHER REGULARLY. JOHN NEVER SAID MUCH ABOUT HIMSELF. THEN, ONE NIGHT...
RITA, I WANT YOU TO CONSIDER THIS OUR ENGAGEMENT RING. TOMORROW WE'LL GET MARRIED --IF YOU HAVE NO OBJECTIONS.
OH, JOHN!
HE DIDN'T SHOW UP THE NEXT DAY OR ANY OTHER DAY. THAT WAS TWO WEEKS AGO. I'M WORRIED ABOUT JOHN.
PERHAPS IT'S THE OLD STORY. HE MAY HAVE BECOME INTERESTED IN SOMEONE ELSE.
"NO, I'VE A FEELING SOMETHING IS VERY WRONG. FOR THE PAST FEW DAYS SOMEONE'S BEEN FOLLOWING ME... A MAN WITH A CANE...!"
A FEW MINUTES AGO, THIS THUG BROKE INTO MY ROOM AND DEMANDED I GO WITH HIM.
IT ALL SOUNDS VERY MYSTERIOUS.
("-SHE TALKS TOO MUCH!-")
HE'S REVIVED!
YER TOO LATE!
WHIPPING BACK, SUPERMAN REPLACES THE GUN WITH A BROOMSTICK HANDLE BEFORE THE HOODLUM CAN PULL THE TRIGGER...
WHA--?
THERE'S GOING TO BE SOME CLEANING UP DONE AROUND HERE--BUT I'M GOING TO DO IT TO YOU!
5

HEY! WOTCHA DOIN'?!!
YOU'D BETTER HOLD TIGHT!
LET'S DO LIKE THE BIRDIES DO!
CUT IT OUT! STOP IT!!
I COULD KEEP THIS UP FOREVER!
PLEASE DON'T!
UNLESS YOU WANT A REPETITION OF THE FOREGOING ACROBATICS, YOU'D BETTER GIVE ME A CIVIL ANSWER! WHERE IS JOHN FLEMING?
THE--THE BOSS HAS GOT HIM!
AND WHO IS--THE BOSS?
THE MAN WITH THE CANE!
AAAGH!!
GUNFIRE!
RACING TO THE ALLEY'S ENTRANCE, SUPERMAN ENCOUNTERS AMBULANCE MEN...
WHERE'S THE BODY?
WHAT BODY?
WE WERE TOLD WE'D FIND ONE IN THIS ALLEY. SAY! YOU'RE...!
RIGHT! YOU'LL FIND THE BODY IN THE ALLEY. EVIDENTLY, "THE MAN WITH THE CANE" TIPPED YOU OFF!
6

LATER, BACK AT THE DAILY PLANET, CLARK WORKS WITHOUT COMPLAINT, HIS MIND WELL OCCUPIED...
("-I'LL STOP BACK AT RITA'S HOME THIS EVENING, TO GO INTO THE MATTER FURTHER!-")
("-CLARK NO LONGER SEEMS DISSATISFIED WITH HIS ASSIGNMENT. THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG HERE!-")
WHEN KENT LEAVES HIS DESK FOR A MOMENT, LOIS GLANCES AT THE LETTERS...
NO WONDER! THIS LETTER FROM THE ALLEN GIRL HAS THE MAKINGS OF A REAL STORY!
SHORTLY AFTER...
I'M MISS LANE FROM THE DAILY PLANET! I THOUGHT PERHAPS I COULD HELP YOU.
THANK YOU, BUT SUPERMAN HAS ALREADY OFFERED HIS AID!
RAISE YOUR HANDS! AND QUICK!
WHO ARE YOU?
A NEWSPAPER REPORTER.
A REPORTER, EH? THEN YOU'D BETTER COME ALONG, TOO!
("-GOT TO THINK FAST!-") BUT MY SECRETARY KNOWS I'VE COME HERE. IF I'M NOT BACK AT THE OFFICE IN A FEW MINUTES, SHE'LL GET SUSPICIOUS.
THEN GET ON THAT PHONE AND TELL HER YER NOT COMIN' BACK!
I'M DELAYED AT MISS ALLEN'S HOME, MISS HENKEL, AND WON'T BE ABLE TO GET BACK AS PLANNED
HUH???... WHAT SORT OF A GAG IS THIS, LOIS?
BUT AFTER CLARK HANGS UP, THE IMPORT OF LOIS' CALL STRIKES HIM...
GOOD GRIEF! SHE WAS TRYING TO LET ME KNOW SHE'S IN TROUBLE!
MOMENTS LATER, A COLORFULLY COSTUMED FIGURE CATAPULTS HIGH INTO THE SKY...
UP--UP--AND AWAY!!!
7

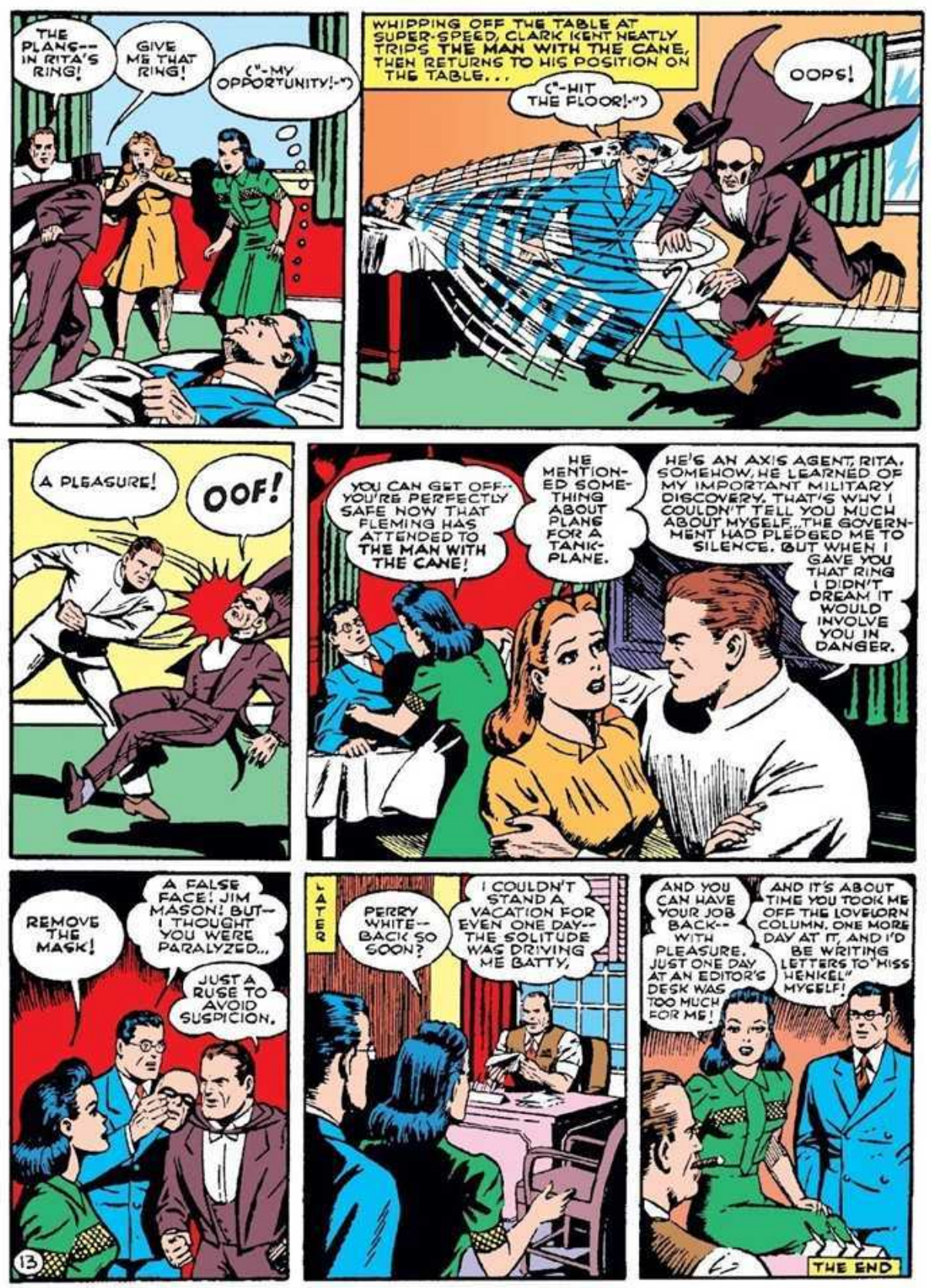
SO SWIFTLY DOES THE STREAKING MAN OF TOMORROW FLASH THRU SPACE THAT HE REACHES RITA'S RESIDENCE IN MOMENTS...
NOT AN INSTANT TOO SOON!
FASTER!
AND NO TRICKS!
AS A PLAN FORMS IN SUPERMAN'S MIND, HE PUTS IT INTO EXECUTION...
A SWITCH REMOVED HERE--ANOTHER REMOVED THERE... AND CLARK KENT WILL HAVE TIME ENOUGH TO REACH THE SCENE!
WHY DOESN'T THE CAR RUN?
SOMETHING SEEMS TO BE WRONG HERE. BUT I'LL FIX IT SOON.
IN A NEARBY ALLEY, SUPERMAN CHANGES BACK TO THE DAILY PLANET'S STAR REPORTER...
NOW TO STROLL PAST THEM LIKE A LAMB GOING TO THE SLAUGHTER!
IT'S CLARK! --CLARK! HELP ME!
SHUT UP, YOU!
I CAME IN ANSWER TO YOUR ODD PHONE CALL, LOIS, AND-- ULP!!
GET IN!
ALL I'VE SUCCEEDED IN DOING IS IMPERILING YOUR LIFE ALSO! I'M SORRY, CLARK!
8
THE ENGINE REPAIRED, THE CAR WHISKS OFF...
WH-WHERE ARE Y-YOU TAKING US?
SAVE YOUR QUESTIONS FOR THE MAN WITH THE CANE!

SHORTLY AFTER-- THE CAPTIVES ARE HERDED INTO A WAITING AMBULANCE.
YOU'RE LATE! AND WHO ARE THESE OTHER TWO?
THEY'RE REPORTERS!
WE THOUGHT WE'D BETTER BRING THEM ALONG!
BUT THESE BANDAGES... THIS IS RIDICULOUS!
I'M ASKIN' YOU TO DO JUST ONE THING... SHUT UP!
BETTER DO AS HE SAYS, CLARK.
AS THE AMBULANCE TURNS INTO THE REAR OF THE BRYANT HOSPITAL, LOIS, CLARK, AND RITA ARE TRANSFERRED TO WHEEL CHAIRS...
THIRD FLOOR!
("-THAT PATIENT! PERHAPS HE COULD GET HELP TO US!-") HELP! WE'RE BEING KIDNAPPED!
IF YOU THINK THAT FELLOW CAN HELP YOU, YOU'RE MISTAKEN! YOUNG JIM MASON IS COMPLETELY PARALYZED... CAN'T MOVE A MUSCLE...
BUT THE ELEVATOR OPERATOR...
HE'S IN WITH US, TOO! I'D ADVISE YOU TO KEEP QUIET, YOUNG LADY, OR WE'LL BE FORCED TO GET--UNPLEASANT!
BUT AS THEY REACH THE THIRD FLOOR, LOIS PUTS ANOTHER DESPERATE SCHEME INTO OPERATION...
("-IF I CAN ONLY GET THIS FELLOW TO NOTICE THAT SOMETHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY IS GOING ON!-")
("-AH! SHE WINKED AT ME!-")
A THOUSAND PARDONS! I AM COUNT ARMAUND! AND YOU ARE...?
I AM..
QUIET! DO NOT DISTURB THE PATIENT!
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING HER?
EACH OF YOU IS TO BE LOCKED IN A SEPARATE ROOM. THE ROOMS ARE SOUNDPROOF-- BUT JUST THE SAME WE ADVISE YOU TO BE SILENT!
BUT THE MOMENT THE DOOR TO HIS ROOM IS LOCKED, CLARK KENT WHIPS INTO HIS IDENTITY AS SUPERMAN...
NOW THAT I'VE FOUND THE LAIR OF THE MAN WITH THE CANE, IT'S TIME TO GO INTO ACTION!
9

SUPERMAN LIFTS THE DOOR OUT, WITH ONE EASY MOVEMENT...
CAN'T LET A MERE LOCK STAND IN MY WAY!
("-FOOTSTEPS! SOMEONE'S COMING!-")
LOIS IS ALL RIGHT--NOW TO SEE HOW RITA IS DOING!
("-DON'T LOOK UP!-")
ARE YOU GOING TO TELL ME WHERE JOHN FLEMING HAS HIDDEN HIS SECRET PLANS?
!--I DON'T KNOW A THING ABOUT ANY SECRET PLANS! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO JOHN?
YOUR PRECIOUS JOHN IS HERE, IN THIS HOSPITAL--UNLESS YOU GIVE ME THE INFORMATION I DEMAND, MY MEN WILL--ER--ELIMINATE HIM IN A FEW MOMENTS! YOU'D BETTER TALK!
GOT TO FIND FLEMING--QUICK!
10

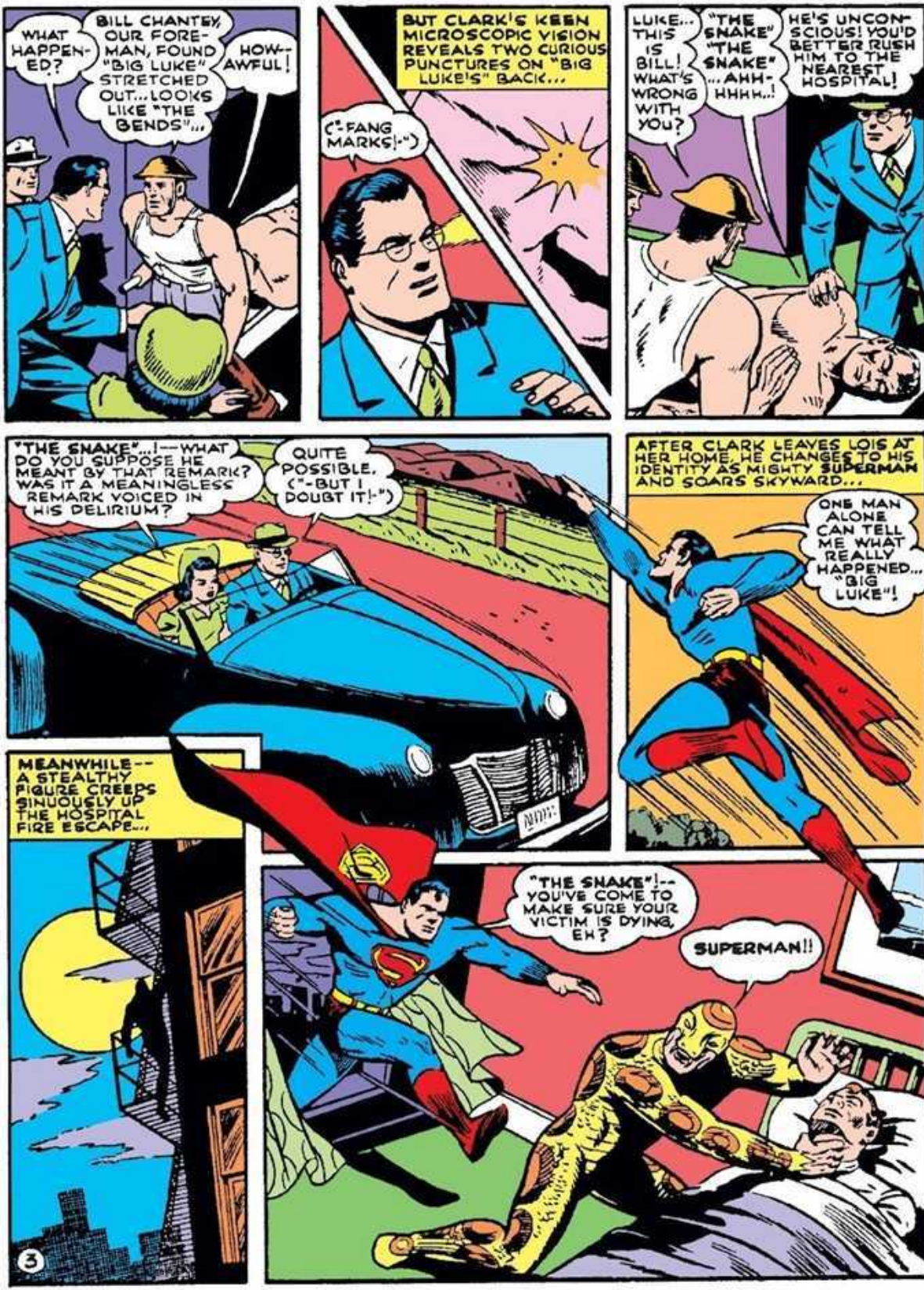
'ROUND AND 'ROUND ABOUT THE HOSPITAL WHIZZES A BLURRING FIGURE...
AND THERE HE IS!
TIME'S UP!
CURTAINS FOR YOU, FLEMING!
NO!
HEY!
LET ME IN ON THIS!
IT'S-- SUPERMAN!
COME NOW! A LITTLE MORE RESISTANCE! YOU BOYS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE TOUGH!
OUCH!
YEE EOW!
SOON AFTER--LEADING FLEMING AFTER HIM, SUPERMAN FREES LOIS...
SUPERMAN! AND WHO'S THAT WITH YOU?
JOHN FLEMING! LET'S GET GOING! RITA NEEDS HELP!
YOUR LAST CHANCE!
ANOTHER CHANCE COMING UP!
AS SUPERMAN RACES TOWARD THE SILHOUETTED FIGURE, A VOLLEY OF DEADLY DARTS RAINS AT HIM FROM THE EXTENDED CANE...
DIE, YOU FOOL!
I REFUSE TO BE ACCOMMO-DATING!
BUT, DESPITE THE ROOM'S DARKNESS, SUPERMAN TACKLES A CANE-WIELDING FIGURE...
GOT YOU!
11

LET GO!
WITH MY FIST--YES!
THERE'S THE MAN RESPONSIBLE!
COUNT ARMAUND--THE MAN WITH THE CANE!
JOHN--ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
NO LONGER ANY NEED OF ME HERE. I'M GOING TO FREE CLARK KENT!
NOW TO HURRY BACK AS CLARK KENT--IN MY CUSTOMARY ROLE OF TIMIDITY!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? SUPERMAN RELEASED ME AND TOLD ME I'D FIND ALL OF YOU HERE!
THE MAN OF TOMORROW JUST AIDED US IN THE CAPTURE OF THE MAN WITH THE CANE! HE'S COUNT ARMAUND!
I SLIPPED IN HERE TO INVESTIGATE THE STRANGE NOISES--AND WAS ATTACKED!
ARE YOU TRYING TO DENY THAT YOU'RE THE SINISTER FELLOW CAUSING US ALL THIS TROUBLE?
I'M NOT GUILTY OF ANYTHING!
HE'S TELLING THE TRUTH! YOU WITH THE GLASSES--GET ON THAT TABLE--AND NO TRICKS!
MAKE UP YOUR MIND, FLEMING--TELL ME WHERE THE PLANS OF YOUR TANK-PLANE ARE--OR I SEND A BARRAGE OF DARTS INTO THIS MAN'S BODY!
NO! YOU MUSTN'T!
("--IF THEY NOTE THE DARTS DO NOT PENETRATE MY SKIN, MY TRUE IDENTITY WILL BE OUT!--")
12


THE PLANS--IN RITA'S RING!
GIVE ME THAT RING!
("-MY OPPORTUNITY!-")
WHIPPING OFF THE TABLE AT SUPER-SPEED, CLARK KENT NEATLY TRIPS THE MAN WITH THE CANE, THEN RETURNS TO HIS POSITION ON THE TABLE...
("-HIT THE FLOOR!-")
OOPS!
A PLEASURE!
OOF!
YOU CAN GET OFF--YOU'RE PERFECTLY SAFE NOW THAT FLEMING HAS ATTENDED TO THE MAN WITH THE CANE!
HE MENTIONED SOMETHING ABOUT PLANS FOR A TANK-PLANE.
HE'S AN AXIS AGENT, RITA. SOMEHOW, HE LEARNED OF MY IMPORTANT MILITARY DISCOVERY. THAT'S WHY I COULDN'T TELL YOU MUCH ABOUT MYSELF...THE GOVERNMENT HAD PLEDGED ME TO SILENCE. BUT WHEN I GAVE YOU THAT RING I DIDN'T DREAM IT WOULD INVOLVE YOU IN DANGER.
REMOVE THE MASK!
A FALSE FACE! JIM MASON! BUT--I THOUGHT YOU WERE PARALYZED...
JUST A RUSE TO AVOID SUSPICION.
13
LATER
PERRY WHITE--BACK SO SOON?
I COULDN'T STAND A VACATION FOR EVEN ONE DAY--THE SOLITUDE WAS DRIVING ME BATTY.
AND YOU CAN HAVE YOUR JOB BACK--WITH PLEASURE. JUST ONE DAY AT AN EDITOR'S DESK WAS TOO MUCH FOR ME!
AND IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU TOOK ME OFF THE LOVELORN COLUMN. ONE MORE DAY AT IT, AND I'D BE WRITING LETTERS TO "MISS HENKEL" MYSELF!
THE END

SUPERMAN
by
JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
ALL DAY... ALL NIGHT... BENEATH THE GROUND IN ENDLESS SHIFTS, POWERFUL MEN TOIL AGAINST THE UNYIELDING BULK OF MIGHTY EARTH ITSELF! TAKING GRAVE RISKS--FACING SOUL-SHAKING DANGERS...THESE GALLANT MEN BATTLE ON! THEY ARE THE DEATH-DEFYING LABORERS WHO CONSTRUCT THE TUNNELS WHICH ENABLE TRAFFIC TO PASS BENEATH GREAT RIVERS,--IT IS IN SUCH A SETTING THAT THE SUPER-STRONG *MAN OF TOMORROW* FINDS A BAFFLING MYSTERY, AND AS SLIPPERY AND CUNNING A FOE AS HE HAS ENCOUNTERED IN MANY A DAY.... "THE SNAKE"!!!
1

DAILY PLAN
DEATH TOLL HIGH IN TUNNEL CAVE-IN
STARK TERROR ENGULFS THE "SANDHOGS" CONSTRUCTING THE HOLLOWAY TUNNEL AS WATER FROM THE RIVER OVERHEAD POURS IN, SWEEPING THEM ABOUT IN THE CLUTCH OF AN IRRESISTIBLE TORRENT...!!!
LATE ONE EVENING, CLARK KENT AND LOIS LANE PARK NEAR A SPOT OVERLOOKING THE TUNNEL ENTRANCE...
HOW THOSE LABORERS COULD GO BACK ON THE JOB AFTER THAT TERRIFIC DISASTER IS MORE THAN I CAN UNDERSTAND, THAT'S WHAT I CALL COURAGE!
NOT ONLY HAVE THEY SUCCEEDED IN DRIVING BACK THE RIVER TO WHERE THE DISASTER OCCURRED, BUT THEY'RE ACTUALLY FORGING ON!
THAT MOMENT...IN THE TUNNEL...AS "BIG LUKE" CLEARS AWAY DEBRIS, HIS GREAT, MUSCULAR BODY POURING SWEAT, A SNAKE-LIKE FIGURE STEALS TOWARD HIM FROM BEHIND...
AAAGH HH!
EXCITEMENT AT THE TUNNEL ENTRANCE! YOU'D BETTER REMAIN IN THE CAR!
EXCITEMENT? JUST TRY TO KEEP ME AWAY!
2


WHAT HAPPENED?
BILL CHANTEY, OUR FOREMAN, FOUND "BIG LUKE" STRETCHED OUT... LOOKS LIKE "THE BENDS"...
HOW--AWFUL!
BUT CLARK'S KEEN MICROSCOPIC VISION REVEALS TWO CURIOUS PUNCTURES ON "BIG LUKE'S" BACK...
("-FANG MARKS!-")
LUKE... THIS IS BILL! WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
"THE SNAKE" "THE SNAKE" ...AHH-HHHH..!
HE'S UNCONSCIOUS! YOU'D BETTER RUSH HIM TO THE NEAREST HOSPITAL!
"THE SNAKE"...!--WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE HE MEANT BY THAT REMARK? WAS IT A MEANINGLESS REMARK VOICED IN HIS DELIRIUM?
QUITE POSSIBLE. ("-BUT I DOUBT IT!-")
AFTER CLARK LEAVES LOIS AT HER HOME, HE CHANGES TO HIS IDENTITY AS MIGHTY SUPERMAN AND SOARS SKYWARD...
ONE MAN ALONE CAN TELL ME WHAT REALLY HAPPENED... "BIG LUKE"!
MEANWHILE-- A STEALTHY FIGURE CREEPS SINUOUSLY UP THE HOSPITAL FIRE ESCAPE...
"THE SNAKE"!-- YOU'VE COME TO MAKE SURE YOUR VICTIM IS DYING, EH?
SUPERMAN!!
3

BUT PERHAPS YOU DIDN'T FIGURE ON MEETING ME!
TRUE-- BUT NOW THAT I HAVE--
AS 'THE SNAKE' UNEXPECTEDLY DUCKS, SUPERMAN CRASHES INTO THE WALL...
MY ERROR!
YOUR ERROR --AND MY OPPORTUNITY!
I HAVEN'T FINISHED WITH YOU YET!
BEAT IT-- OR THE NURSE DIES!
NO! DON'T!
IT APPEARS I HAVE NO CHOICE!
END OF ROUND ONE!
IF HE'S STILL IN THE HOSPITAL, MY X-RAY VISION WILL LOCATE HIM!
WHAT SUPERMAN SIGHTS...! THE NURSE, HELPLESSLY BOUND, WITHIN AN ELEVATOR-CAR IN THE BASEMENT....
4

INTO THE GROUND PLUMMETS SUPERMAN, HIS POWERFUL FISTS FLAILING LIKE PISTONS...
CLEAR THE WAY!
THROUGH THE EARTH HE BURROWS LIKE SOME FANTASTIC MONSTER...
I'M GETTING THERE!
IT'S ONLY I!
A MOMENT LATER...
WHERE IS "THE SNAKE"?
I--I DON'T KNOW. HE LEFT ME AND FLED!
LATER--IN A DESERTED CORNER...
NOW TO FIND OUT WHAT "BIG LUKE" IS CONDITION IS.
THE WAITING ROOM...
ANY NEWS ABOUT "BIG LUKE," CHANTEY?
NOT YET!
5
HOW--HOW IS HE, DOC?
DEAD--OF A SNAKE BITE!
("--'THE SNAKE' TRIUMPHS!--")
I HATE TO THINK WHAT EFFECT "BIG LUKE'S" DEATH WILL HAVE ON THE MEN. THEY'RE HARD ENOUGH TO HANDLE AS IT IS!
("--SOMEHOW--SOME WAY--'BIG LUKE'S' DEATH MUST BE AVENGED!--")

NEXT MORNING...KENT CALLS ON THE MANAGER OF THE ALLERTON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY...
WHY SHOULD ANY-ONE WANT TO HALT THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE HOLLOWAY TUNNEL?
NO REASON THAT I KNOW OF!
LOIS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
ON THE TRACK OF A STORY, NATURALLY!
STAY CLEAR OF THIS YARN. IT'S DANGEROUS!
YOU HAVE A NERVE... TELLING ME WHAT TO DO!
I WAS ONLY THINKING OF YOUR WELFARE!
ON THE CONTRARY, YOU WERE ONLY THINKING OF YOUR BY-LINE! NO, CLARK, I'LL DO WHAT I LIKE, WHEN I LIKE, AND WHERE I LIKE!
AS STUBBORN AS EVER! ONLY ONE THING TO DO. SOLVE THIS CASE BEFORE LOIS HAS AN OPPORTUNITY REALLY TO GET INTO TROUBLE.
ASSUMING ANOTHER IDENTITY IS A SIMPLE MATTER FOR CLARK KENT.--WORKING CLOTHES--FEATURES TWISTED INTO ANOTHER FACIAL APPEARANCE--AND THE TRICK IS DONE!
AS SIMPLE AS THAT!
LATER...AT THE TUNNEL ENTRANCE...
I'M QUITTING. I DON'T MIND A DANGEROUS JOB, BUT THIS TUNNEL IS HOODOOED!
FIRST THAT CAVE-IN... THEN "BIG LUKE" DIES OF SNAKEBITE WHEN THERE SHOULDN'T BE SNAKES FOR MILES AROUND...!
WE'RE QUITTING, TOO!
BUT MEN...!!!
I'D LIKE TO APPLY FOR A JOB. SNAKES, SPOOKS.... THEY DON'T SCARE ME!
YOU'RE HIRED!
JUST A MINUTE, PUNK! ARE YOU INSINUAT-ING WE'RE COWARDS??!
6

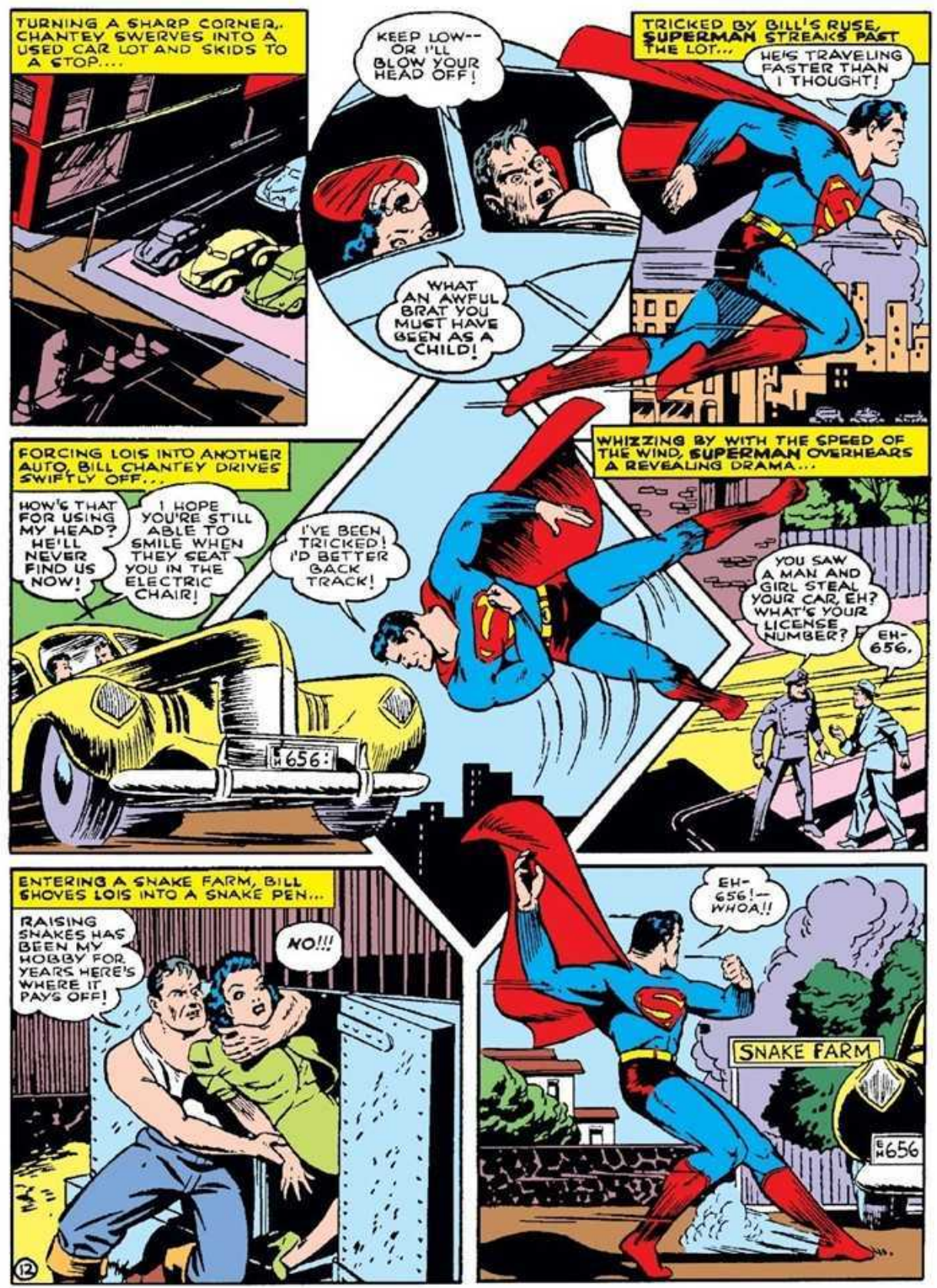
YOU CATCH ON QUICK!
AN' HERE'S WHERE YOU CATCH SOMETHIN'!
...ON YOUR CHIN!
I'M AFRAID YOU MISSED!
I'LL SMASH YOUR SKULL IN!
TCH! TCH! --YOU OUGHT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT TEMPER!
BUT AS MATT SWINGS FOR CLARK, THE DISGUISED REPORTER SIDESTEPS--SEIZES THE SHOVEL AND...
AWK!!
WHA--??!
UP YOU GO!
OO-UFF!
THE FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE HAD NOTHING ON YOU!
THAT'S ENOUGH OUT OF YOU TWO! SAVE YOUR STRENGTH FOR THE BIG JOB IN THE TUNNEL!--NOW NO MORE COMPLAININ' FROM ANYONE! BACK TO WORK--ALL OF YOU!
I HOPE YOU'RE NOT HURT--MUCH!
I'M NOT FINISHED WITH YOU--NOT BY A LONG SHOT!
7

BOARDING A WORK CAR, THE "SANDHOGS" RIDE DOWN, DOWN INTO AN UNDERGROUND WORLD OF WEIRD CATACOMBS...
HOP OFF, YOU TWO...AND NO MORE FIGHTING, UNDERSTAND? MATT, TAKE CHARGE!
OKAY, BILL!
THE OTHERS HAVE GONE ON TO THE PRESSURE-HEAD, LEAVING US ALONE. ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN HERE! FILL UP THAT CAR!
YESSIR... YESSIR...
CLARK FILLS THE CAR WITH EXCESS EARTH IN MOMENTS...
ANY MORE WORK, SIR??
I--I'LL FIND MORE FOR YOU!
LATER--AS CLARK IS ENGROSSED IN HIS LABOR, MATT STEALS TOWARD HIM, PICK RAISED MURDEROUSLY..
("I'LL TEACH HIM NOT TO MAKE MATT HICKEY LOOK LIKE A SAP BEFORE THE OTHERS!")
THAT MOMENT... APPEARING MYSTERIOUSLY, "THE SNAKE" JABS TOWARD CLARK'S UNPROTECTED BACK WITH HIS CRUEL FANGS...
NOW!
BUT MATT, WHO HAD LEAPT IN FROM BEHIND TO DEAL CLARK A TREACHEROUS BLOW, ACCIDENTALLY RECEIVES THE THRUST...
YAA-AAA-AA!!
"THE SNAKE"!
AS HE DASHES IN PURSUIT, CLARK SWITCHES GARMENTS...
TOUGH ON MATT... BUT A BREAK FOR ME!
SUPERMAN!
HERE'S WHERE "THE SNAKE" GETS HIS TAIL TWISTED!!
8

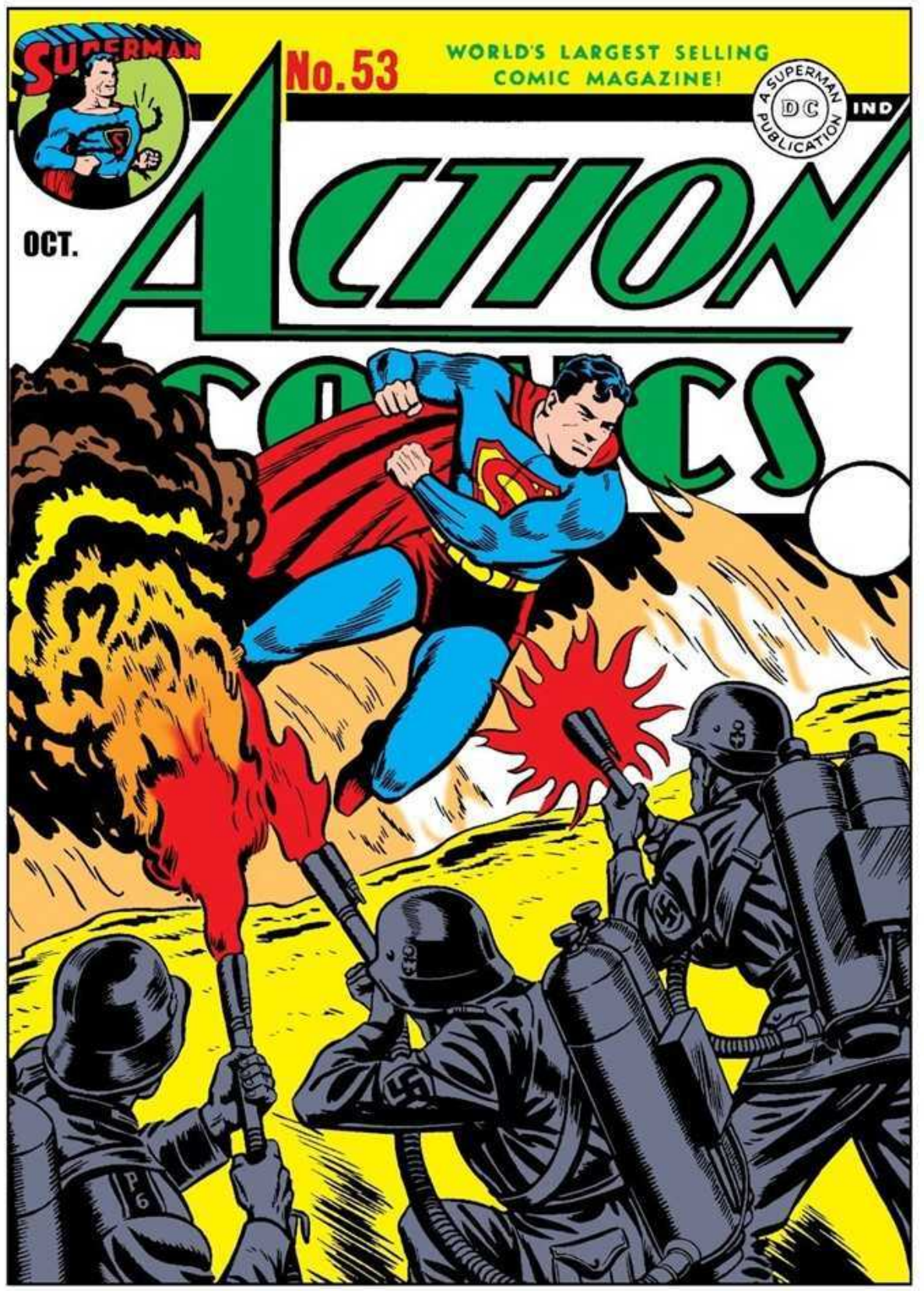
"THE SNAKE" PAUSES IN HIS FRANTIC FLIGHT LONG ENOUGH TO KNOCK CEILING SUPPORTS DOWN....
UP--UP SUPERMAN FORCES THE HEAVY TUNNEL SUPPORTS, STRAINING TO KEEP THE ENTIRE WALL FROM COLLAPSING...
FIRST YOU'VE A CAVE-IN TO COPE WITH!
YOU STOOP TO ANY LENGTHS, DON'T YOU?
"THE SNAKE" MADE GOOD HIS ESCAPE! BUT I HAD TO SAVE THE MEN IN THE TUNNEL!
ONCE AGAIN CLARK SWITCHES IDENTITIES...
COME QUICK--MATT...ATTACKED BY "THE SNAKE"....!
WHAT NONSENSE IS THIS?
WE'D BETTER GO SEE!
THE GRIEVOUSLY INJURED MATT IS IMMEDIATELY DISPATCHED TO A HOSPITAL...
YOUR STORY IS TOO INCREDIBLE TO BELIEVE!
POSITIVE IT WASN'T YOU WHO PUT MATT IN THAT SHAPE?
I FIGHT FAIR!
UNEASILY, THE MEN RETURN TO WORK. LATER, LOIS SLIPS THRU THE UNGUARDED TUNNEL ENTRANCE
THERE'S A STORY HERE, IF I CAN FIND IT!
AS LOIS RUMAGES THRU WORK-EQUIPMENT FOR A CLUE, HER ELBOW ACCIDENTALLY JABS A PROJECTING ROCK. IN RESPONSE, PART OF THE WALL SLIDES ASIDE, REVEALING....
WHAT'S THIS??
LANCES...AND BOTTLES LABELED SNAKE POISON! I HAVE STUMBLED ON SOMETHING IMPORTANT!
TOO IMPORTANT... FOR YOUR OWN GOOD!
9

TIED TO A DUMP CAR, LOIS IS SENT HURTLING TOWARD DESTRUCTION...
("-LOIS ...ON THE SPOT!-")
SLIPPING AWAY, CLARK CHANGES TO SUPERMAN, THEN RACES IN AS THE CAR IS ABOUT TO CRASH...
WAIT FOR ME!
AN INSTANT BEFORE THE CAR CAN CRASH INTO THE WALL, SUPERMAN SEIZES IT, HAULS BACK, AND BRINGS IT TO A HALT BARELY IN TIME!
ANOTHER SECOND AND I'D HAVE BEEN TOO LATE!
YOU'RE STILL TOO LATE! THE GIRL DIES!!
EXPERTLY CATCHING THE DEADLY LANCE, SUPERMAN HURLS IT TOWARD THE KILLER...
RIGHT BACK!
ALMOST GOT ME!
THAT HORRIBLE THING--IT VANISHED LIKE A SHADOW!
HE'S A SLIPPERY GENT...AND HIS CAPACITY FOR MISCHIEF IS ALMOST AS GREAT AS HIS PROPENSITY FOR GETTING INTO IT!
BUT A LITTLE WHILE AGO THIS CRANNY WAS FILLED WITH LANCES AND SNAKE POISON!
AND NOW THEY'RE GONE, EH? TAKE A TIP, YOU GO TOO...AND AS FAR FROM THIS TUNNEL AS YOU CAN GET.
LATER--WHEN THE DISGUISED CLARK EMERGES FROM THE TUNNEL, HE FINDS NOT ONLY LOIS...BUT POLICE...
ARREST HIM! I'M POSITIVE HE KILLED MATT--THEY QUARRELLED JUST BEFORE THE MURDER!
YOU'D BETTER COME ALONG WITH US.
("-BENEATH BILL'S UNDERSHIRT... SOMETHING I'M SURE WILL INTEREST THE POLICE! I'LL PRETEND TO MAKE A DASH FOR IT...THEN...")
WHAT A STORY!
10

OUT OF MY WAY!
STOP HIM! HE'S TRYING TO GET AWAY!
AS THEY STRUGGLE, THE DISGUISED CLARK RIPS BILL'S UNDERSHIRT OPEN APPARENTLY BY ACCIDENT, REVEALING...
TATTOOED ON HIS CHEST--A SNAKE...!
BILL CHANTEY--"THE SNAKE"! THEN--THEN HE'S THE KILLER!
YES... I'M "THE SNAKE" ALL RIGHT! FOR YEARS I SLAVED TO MAKE THE ALLERTON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY A SUCCESS, AND YET IT WAS ALWAYS OTHERS WHO GOT THE BIG PROMOTIONS. I VOWED TO RUIN THE COMPANY AT ANY COST!
DON'T SHOOT OR HE'LL KILL THE GIRL!
("-GOT TO ACT QUICKLY! -")
CHANTEY'S GETTING AWAY! AND USING THE GIRL AS A SHIELD!
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MAN BILL CHANTEY ACCUSED?
("-HE'S HAD A HEAD START...BUT IT WON'T DO HIM MUCH GOOD!-")
SUPERMAN'S ON YOUR TRAIL! BETTER THINK FAST!
THAT'S MY SPECIALTY!
11


TURNING A SHARP CORNER, CHANTEY SWERVES INTO A USED CAR LOT AND SKIDS TO A STOP....
KEEP LOW-- OR I'LL BLOW YOUR HEAD OFF!
WHAT AN AWFUL BRAT YOU MUST HAVE BEEN AS A CHILD!
TRICKED BY BILL'S RUSE, SUPERMAN STREAKS PAST THE LOT...
HE'S TRAVELING FASTER THAN I THOUGHT!
FORCING LOIS INTO ANOTHER AUTO, BILL CHANTEY DRIVES SWIFTLY OFF...
HOW'S THAT FOR USING MY HEAD? HE'LL NEVER FIND US NOW!
I HOPE YOU'RE STILL ABLE TO SMILE WHEN THEY SEAT YOU IN THE ELECTRIC CHAIR!
I'VE BEEN TRICKED! I'D BETTER BACK TRACK!
H656
WHIZZING BY WITH THE SPEED OF THE WIND, SUPERMAN OVERHEARS A REVEALING DRAMA...
YOU SAW A MAN AND GIRL STEAL YOUR CAR, EH? WHAT'S YOUR LICENSE NUMBER?
EH-656.
ENTERING A SNAKE FARM, BILL SHOVES LOIS INTO A SNAKE PEN...
RAISING SNAKES HAS BEEN MY HOBBY FOR YEARS HERE'S WHERE IT PAYS OFF!
NO!!!
EH-656!—WHOA!!
SNAKE FARM
EH656
12

LET ME OUT! PLEASE LET ME OUT!!
NOT A CHANCE, LADY!-- ONCE YOU'RE SAFELY OUT OF THE WAY, I'M GOING TO SKIP THIS COUNTRY FOR GOOD!
SUPER-MAN!
NO ONE ELSE!
SWIFTLY, SUPERMAN FLINGS THE SQUIRMING SNAKES BACK...
DON'T CROWD! GIVE A GAL ROOM!
LOOK OUT! HE'S GOING TO FIRE INTO THE PEN!
AND THIS TIME THERE'S NO OUT FOR YOU!
BUT AS CHANTEY TAKES DELIBERATE AIM, ONE OF HIS OWN VICIOUS PETS SINKS ITS TERRIBLE FANGS INTO HIS LEG..
YAA-AAGH!
SUPERMAN RUSHES THE WOUNDED BILL CHANTEY TO A HOSPITAL. LATER-- IN HIS IDENTITY AS CLARK KENT, HE ENCOUNTERS THE ALLERTON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY'S MANAGER PACING THE HOSPITAL CORRIDOR...
CHANTEY SUCCEEDED! THE TUNNEL WAS A DEFENSE PROJECT, AND WE HAD CONTRACTED TO FINISH IT BY TOMORROW. BUT THERE'S NO CHANCE OF THAT NOW.
MIRACLES HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO HAPPEN!
MY DAILY GOOD DEED!
LATER--A COSTUMED FIGURE STREAKS THRU THE HOLLOWAY TUNNEL, EXCAVATING AT AN AMAZING PACE....
MINUTES LATER, SUPERMAN EMERGES ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER, HIS JOB COMPLETED...
THE TUNNEL'S FINISHED, AND THE LABORERS WON'T LOSE A CENT OF PAY BECAUSE OF THE BONUS CLAUSE IN THEIR CONTRACTS!
LATER....
IT'S BAD ENOUGH YOU SCOOPED ME ON REVEALING BILL CHANTEY'S IDENTITY AS "THE SNAKE"--BUT YOU ALSO TURNED IN THAT STORY ON HOW SUPERMAN COMPLETED THE TUNNEL SINGLE-HANDED.
BETTER STICK TO YOUR LOVELORN COLUMN, LOIS, AND LEAVE THE NEWS REPORTING TO ME.
THE END


SUPERMAN
No. 53
WORLD'S LARGEST SELLING COMIC MAGAZINE!
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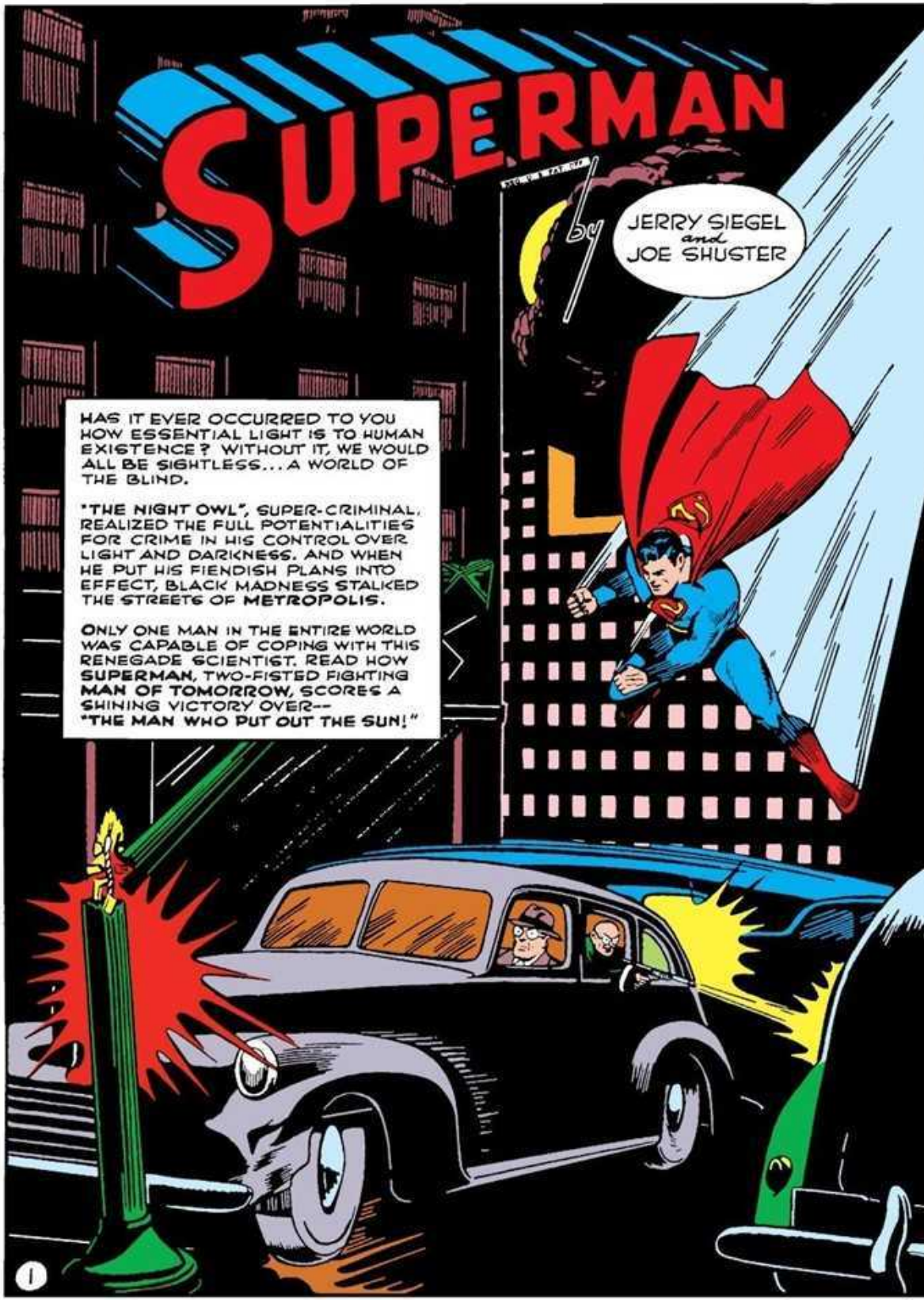
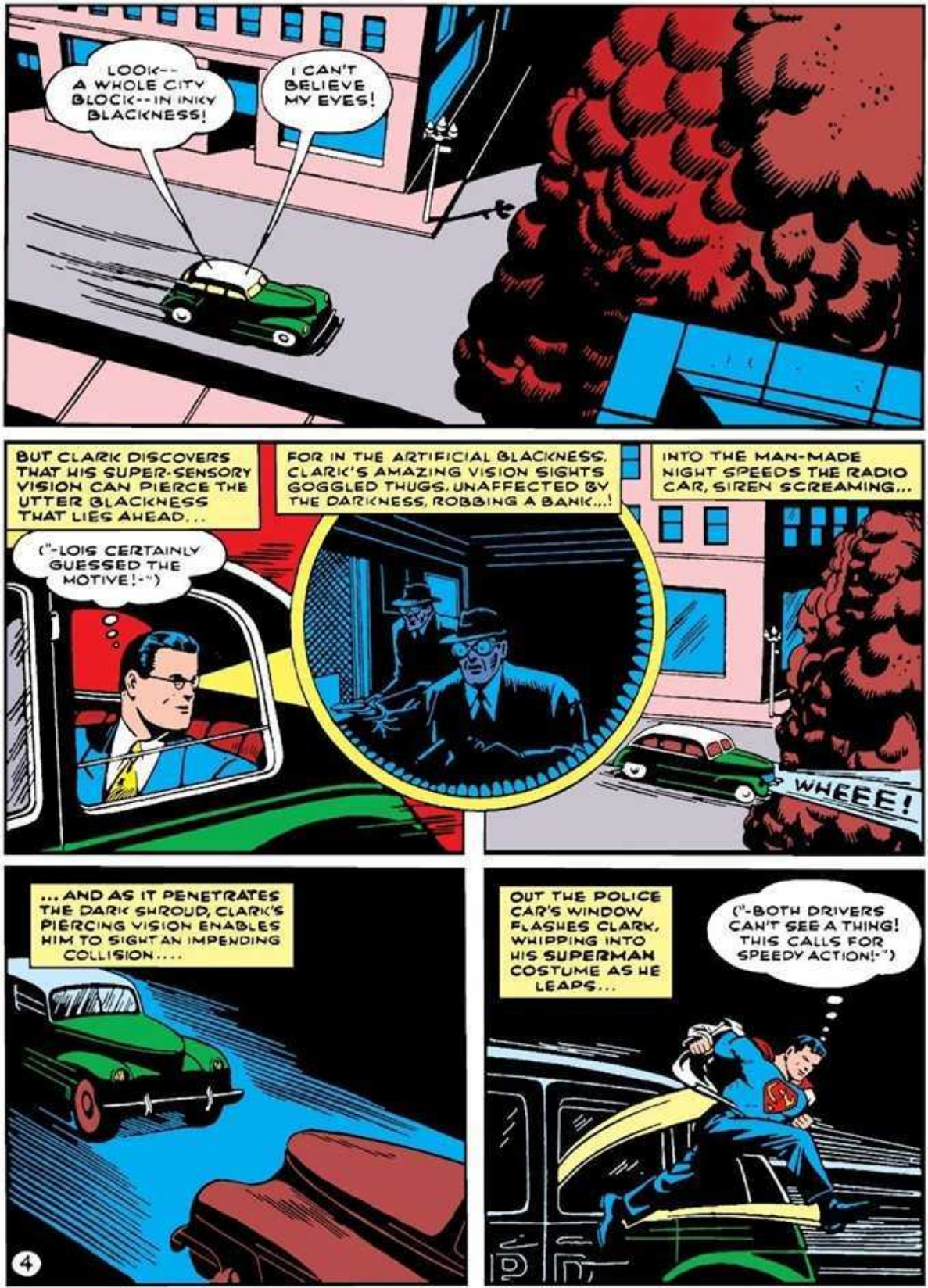

SUPERMAN
by
JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
HAS IT EVER OCCURRED TO YOU HOW ESSENTIAL LIGHT IS TO HUMAN EXISTENCE? WITHOUT IT, WE WOULD ALL BE SIGHTLESS... A WORLD OF THE BLIND.
"THE NIGHT OWL", SUPER-CRIMINAL, REALIZED THE FULL POTENTIALITIES FOR CRIME IN HIS CONTROL OVER LIGHT AND DARKNESS. AND WHEN HE PUT HIS FIENDISH PLANS INTO EFFECT, BLACK MADNESS STALKED THE STREETS OF METROPOLIS.
ONLY ONE MAN IN THE ENTIRE WORLD WAS CAPABLE OF COPING WITH THIS RENEGADE SCIENTIST. READ HOW SUPERMAN, TWO-FISTED FIGHTING MAN OF TOMORROW, SCORES A SHINING VICTORY OVER--
"THE MAN WHO PUT OUT THE SUN!"
1

A JANGLING ALARM-CLOCK HERALDS THE DAWN OF A NEW DAY. IN HER APARTMENT, LOIS LANE SITS ERECT IN BED AS HER CLOCK RINGS DEAFENINGLY...
AM I STILL ASLEEP? IT'S DARK-- I CAN'T SEE!
BRRR RRING!
THAT INFERNAL CLOCK! IT MUST HAVE GONE OFF AT THE WRONG TIME. I'LL DIAL THE TELEPHONE COMPANY FOR THE CORRECT TIME.
AT THE SOUND OF THE NOTE, THE TIME WILL BE-- SEVEN-THIRTY... BONG!
SEVEN-THIRTY! THEN--WHY IS IT SO PITCH BLACK?
DONNING HER GARMENTS IN THE DARK, LOIS GROPES OUT INTO THE STREET...
AUTOS COLLIDING--YET I CAN'T SEE THEM...!
CRASH!
SHOTS! GUN SHOTS!!
BANG! BANG!
INVISIBLE FINGERS THRUST LOIS ASIDE. AS SHE TOPPLES, SHE GRASPS FOR SUPPORT... HER FINGERS CLOSE ABOUT SOMEONE'S HAND, SNATCH SOMETHING...
WHAT IS THIS??!
ABRUPTLY, AS SHE STRUGGLES ERECT, BROAD DAYLIGHT SPRINGS UNEXPECTEDLY INTO BEING...
THE SUDDEN LIGHT-- BLINDING ME!!
2
BUT AS LOIS SIGHTS THE OBJECTS CLUTCHED IN HER HAND, SHE GETS THE GREATEST SHOCK OF ALL...
G-GEMS... REAL HONEST-TO-GOODNESS GEMS!!!

THE FULL LIGHT OF DAY REVEALS A SCENE OF STRANGE HAVOC...
WHAT HAPPENED? THE STREET LOOKS AS THO IT HAD BEEN HIT BY A CYCLONE!
IT WASN'T A CYCLONE... JUST A TERRIBLE DARKNESS THAT CAME UNEXPECTEDLY FROM NOWHERE!
SHORTLY AFTER...
--AND BELIEVE IT OR NOT, WHEN THE LIGHT OF DAY SUDDENLY FLASHED ON, I FOUND THOSE GEMS IN MY HANDS!
IT SOUNDS INCREDIBLE!
BUT THOSE GEMS LOOK REAL ENOUGH. I'LL TELEPHONE POLICE HEADQUARTERS AND ASK IF THERE WAS A ROBBERY IN THE VICINITY OF LOIS' APARTMENT.
THEY SAY THERE WAS A ROBBERY AT STANTON JEWELERS JUST AROUND THE CORNER FROM YOUR ADDRESS! GET GOING!!
I DON'T NEED ANY ENCOURAGING!
THIS STILL SOUNDS PHONY!
LATER
YES! THAT'S SOME OF THE JEWELRY MISSING FROM OUR SMASHED WINDOW!
AND YOU SAY THAT YOU SNATCHED IT FROM SOMEONE'S HANDS WHILE FALLING?
YES. EVIDENTLY I STUMBLED ACROSS ONE OF THE THIEVES IN THE DARKNESS.
IT'S THAT DARKNESS THAT PUZZLES ME. THE REST OF THE CITY WAS BRIGHT AND LIGHT AT THAT TIME OF THE MORNING!
IT'S ALMOST AS THO SOMEONE DELIBERATELY TURNED OFF THE LIGHT OF DAY JUST SO THAT HE COULD ROB UNDER COVER OF DARKNESS.
BY GEORGE-- THAT SOUNDS FANTASTIC, BUT PERHAPS IT'S THE EXPLANATION!
SERGEANT CASEY! A RADIO FLASH--DARKNESS HAS ENGULFED A BLOCK ONLY A FEW STREETS AWAY.
COME ON, CLARK AND LOIS, YOU HAVE MY PERMISSION TO ACCOMPANY ME.
BUT I DON'T WANT TO!
YOU'RE GOING TO! WE'RE NOT GOING TO LOSE OUT ON THE BIGGEST STORY OF THE YEAR!
WE'LL BE THERE IN A FEW MINUTES!
THIS IS EXCITING!
YES--ISN'T IT? ("-IF LOIS HADN'T DRAGGED ME INTO THE CAR, I MIGHT HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO SWITCH TO SUPERMAN AND CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION OF MY OWN!")
D D.
3


LOOK--A WHOLE CITY BLOCK--IN INKY BLACKNESS!
I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EYES!
BUT CLARK DISCOVERS THAT HIS SUPER-SENSORY VISION CAN PIERCE THE UTTER BLACKNESS THAT LIES AHEAD...
("-LOIS CERTAINLY GUESSED THE MOTIVE!-")
FOR IN THE ARTIFICIAL BLACKNESS, CLARK'S AMAZING VISION SIGHTS GOGGLED THUGS, UNAFFECTED BY THE DARKNESS, ROBBING A BANK...!
INTO THE MAN-MADE NIGHT SPEEDS THE RADIO CAR, SIREN SCREAMING...
WHEEE!
...AND AS IT PENETRATES THE DARK SHROUD, CLARK'S PIERCING VISION ENABLES HIM TO SIGHT AN IMPENDING COLLISION....
4
OUT THE POLICE CAR'S WINDOW FLASHES CLARK, WHIPPING INTO HIS SUPERMAN COSTUME AS HE LEAPS...
("-BOTH DRIVERS CAN'T SEE A THING! THIS CALLS FOR SPEEDY ACTION!-")

IN BETWEEN THE TWO STREAKING AUTOS FLASHES A ROCKET-LIKE FIGURE....
CAN'T WE TALK THIS OVER?
...IN ONE OF THE MOST SENSATIONAL EXHIBITIONS OF STRENGTH THAT THE WORLD HAS EVER SEEN, THE ASTOUNDING MAN OF TOMORROW PREVENTS THE TWO AUTOS FROM SMASHING!
BREAK CLEAN!
IT'S SUPERMAN!
HE'S HELPLESSLY BLIND IN THE DARKNESS! LET HIM HAVE IT!!
CITY BANK
BLIND, EH?
STILL THINK SO?
AWK!
HE CAN SEE IN THE DARKNESS!!
I CAN USE YOU! BUT THE MANEUVER DEMANDS YOU BE UNCONSCIOUS!
SWIFTLY, SUPERMAN FLINGS HIS CAPTIVE INTO THE POLICE CAR BETWEEN CASEY AND LOIS...
THEY'LL TAKE IT FOR GRANTED HIS UNCONSCIOUS FIGURE IS CLARK KENT!
SUPERMAN'S RUSE WORKS!
MY FLASHLIGHT--IT CAN'T PENETRATE THE DARKNESS! WE STILL CAN'T SEE!
I KNEW IT! THE SLIGHTEST EXCITEMENT AND CLARK PULLS A FAINT!
DELIBERATELY, SUPERMAN JAMS THE POLICE CAR BETWEEN TWO CLOSE-SET BUILDINGS...
THAT'LL KEEP YOU FROM GETTING INTO TROUBLE!
5

AND NOW TO PLAY PUNCHING-BAG WITH THOSE GOGGLE-EYED CROOKS!
WHAT'S THE IDEA OF THAT MAN TIED TO THE RADIATOR?
HE'S A BANK EMPLOYEE. IF YOU MAKE ONE MOVE TO STOP US, WE'LL RAM THE CAR INTO A WALL AND CRUSH HIM!

AS THE MAN OF TOMORROW SEEKS TO DECIDE WHAT COURSE OF ACTION TO TAKE, HE NOTES A NEW DEVELOPMENT...
("-OH-OH! THAT THUG IN THE CAR-- REVIVING!-")
OH-HHH...
IS THAT YOU, CLARK?

SPEED... SPEED... SPEED...!!!
6

("-I DON'T KNOW HOW I GOT INTO THIS POLICE CAR... BUT IT'S THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME TO KILL A COP AND GET AWAY WITH IT!-")

BUT BEFORE THE MURDEROUS TRIGGER-FINGER CAN TIGHTEN..!
WHACK!
THAT'LL PUT HIM SAFELY BACK INTO DREAMLAND FOR A WHILE! NOW TO TAKE CARE OF HIS PALS IN THAT ESCAPING CAR!
BUT THAT INSTANT--
BROAD DAYLIGHT!
THIS CALLS FOR SPEED PLUS! I'VE GOT TO GET BACK INTO THAT CAR BEFORE THEY NOTICE THE THUG IN THERE IS-NOT CLARK KENT!
THE POLICE-CAR IS PULLED FROM BETWEEN THE TWO WALLS...
THE HOODLUM'S FIGURE IS YANKED OUT OF THE AUTO...
--AND CLARK KENT WHIZZES INTO HIS PLACE -- ALL IN THE AMAZING SPACE OF A FRACTION OF AN INSTANT!
FLYING FINGERS BUTTON CLARK'S SHIRT AS LOIS BEGINS TO TURN TOWARD HIM...
("-FASTER...!-")
CLARK BARELY MANAGES TO TUG HIS TIE INTO PLACE BEFORE THE GIRL REPORTER'S EYES FALL UPON HIM...
SO YOU'VE COME OUT OF YOUR FAINT AT LAST!
THERE'S BEEN A HOLD-UP!
THE EXCITEMENT --TOO MUCH FOR ME!

WE'VE BEEN ROBBED!
COME OUT OF IT! I KNOW YOU, MARTY KELLY--YOU'VE BEEN UP THE RIVER TWICE. ONE MORE TIME AND IT'LL BE A LIFE STRETCH. WILL YOU TALK?
NO! NOT LIFE!
WIDE-STARING EYES OBSERVE THE SCENE FROM A NEARBY WINDOW...
KELLY IS GETTING TALKATIVE -- GO, FEATHERED ONE, AND REMIND HIM OF THE FATE THAT AWAITS IF HE TALKS OUT OF TURN!
ARE YOU GOING TO TELL US WHO IS BEHIND THOSE BLACKOUT CRIMES?
THAT OWL! NO! NO!!
GOOD WORK, FEATHERED ONE! THE FOOL WILL HOLD HIS TONGUE!
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! HE WAS GONNA SPILL EVERYTHING, WHEN HE SAW THAT OWL, THEN HE SHUT UP LIKE A CLAM!
COME ON, CLARK. WE'VE SEEN ENOUGH.
8
BUT AS LOIS REACHES THE DAILY PLANET. . . .
I'VE LOST CLARK AGAIN. WELL, I'VE GOT SOMETHING HE DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT. THE GOGGLES THAT ENABLED KELLY TO SEE THRU THE MYSTERIOUS DARKNESS!
I'VE A HUNCH THAT KELLY'S BOSS WON'T LET HIM STAY IN JAIL LONG. AND SO, THIS CALLS FOR ACTION BY SUPERMAN!

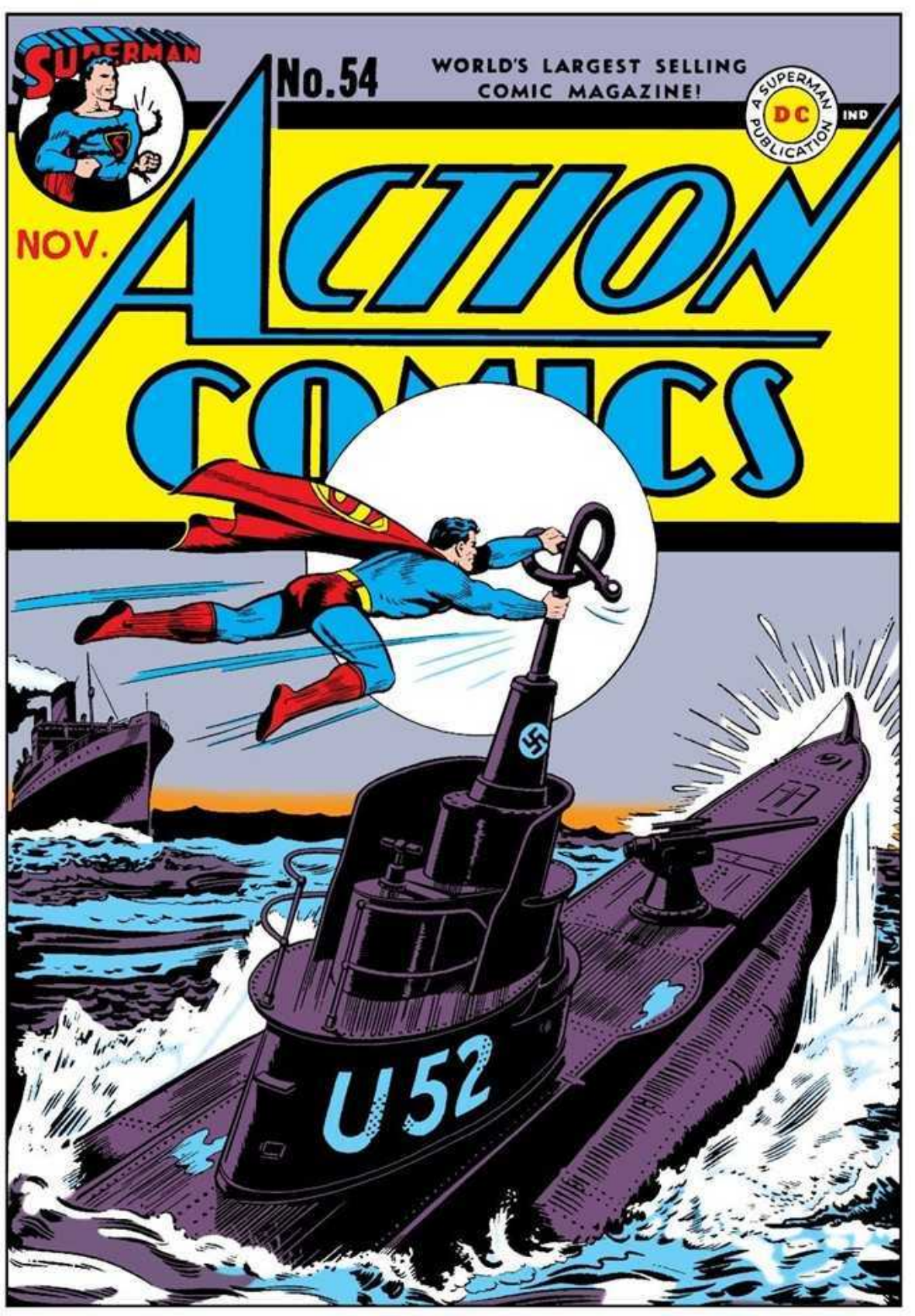
THE MAN OF TOMORROW CONCEALS HIMSELF NEAR POLICE HEADQUARTERS. SHORTLY AFTER, HE NOTES...
HM-MM. CONVENIENT, THIS X-RAY VISION OF MINE!
I'M SAYIN' NOTHING!
I GIVE UP! NOTHING WILL MAKE HIM TALK!
LET'S GO!
UNSEEN BY THE DEPARTING POLICE, A BLURRED FIGURE FLASHES INTO THE CELL THRU THE CLOSING DOOR...
TIGHT SQUEEZE!
SWISH!
THOUGHT THEY COULD BREAK ME DOWN, EH? HA! I SURE SHOWED 'EM!
("-AND HERE'S WHERE I SHOW HIM A THING OR TWO!-")
HUH? I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMEONE BEHIND ME!
("-TCH! TCH! HE MUST BE IMAGINING THINGS!-")
ULP!
THAT'LL BE ENOUGH OUT OF YOU, BROTHER! WE'RE GOING PLACES!
YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME! IT'S ILLEGAL!
I MUST REMEMBER TO LOOK IT UP IN MY STATUTE BOOKS --LATER!
SOON AFTER--AS TWO HURTLING BODIES FLASH DOWN TOWARD THE MAN OF STEEL'S SECRET MOUNTAIN-RETREAT....
YEE-EE OWW!
YOU CAN YELL YOUR COWARDLY LUNGS OUT! THERE'S NO ONE HEREABOUTS WHO CAN HEAR YOU!
9

BEHOLD-- I APPLY SOME MAKEUP THUS-- AND WE LOOK ALIKE ENOUGH TO BE TWINS!
AMAZING!
HEIGH-HO HEIGH-HO IT'S OFF TO JAIL WE GO
BUT AS THE DISGUISED SUPERMAN NEARS THE POLICE STATION...
THE ENTIRE BLOCK SURROUNDING POLICE HEADQUARTERS-- ENGULFED IN THAT PITCH BLACK!
SUPERMAN BURROWS HIS WAY BACK INTO THE CELL... AND JUST IN TIME.
YOU'RE COMING WITH US, KELLY!
PUT ON THESE GOGGLES AND YOU'LL SEE CLEARLY!
MEANWHILE--LOIS, TOO, HAD ANTICIPATED THE JAILBREAK. NOW, WEARING THE GOGGLES SHE HAD SEIZED, SHE HURRIES TO THE GANGSTER CAR, AND CLIMBS INTO THE TRUNK COMPARTMENT WITH THE AID OF A SKELETON KEY....
HERE'S WHERE I GET A FREE RIDE!
LATER... THE GANGSTER-CAR DRAWS UP BEFORE A GREAT CAVE...
THE BOSS IN THERE?
OF COURSE HE IS!
WALK FASTER, THE NIGHT-OWL DOESN'T LIKE TO BE KEPT WAITING!
10

SO--YOU BROUGHT KELLY WITH YOU, FORTUNATE FOR HIM THAT HE DIDN'T TALK.
THE COPS TRIED HARD ENOUGH-- BUT I KEPT MY MOUTH SHUT...
RAISE YOUR HANDS --ALL OF YOU!
BUT AS THE NIGHT-OWL WHISPERS A SIGNAL, HIS STRANGE PET SWOOPS AT LOIS, KNOCKING THE GUN FROM HER HAND....
OH-HH!
GOT HER, NIGHT-OWL!
BENSON-- IT WAS YOUR ASSIGNMENT TO SEE THAT NO ONE TRAILED YOU HERE. YOU FAILED -- AND SO...YOU PAY THE PENALTY...
NO... NO..!!
EEE-EEE!
A FEW SCRATCHES FROM MY PET'S POISONED CLAWS-- AND YOU'LL NOT LIVE TO FUMBLE MY ORDERS AGAIN...!
THE SUCCESS OF THESE PRELIMINARY SKIRMISHES CONVINCES ME THAT THE APPLICATION OF MY "BLACK LIGHT" DISCOVERY TO CRIME WAS AN INSPIRATION. AND SO I'LL FLASH A SIGNAL TO MY MEN THRUOUT THE CITY TO BEGIN THE "BIG DRIVE"!
BLACK LIGHT PROJECTORS HAVE BEEN SET UP AT SPOTS THRUOUT THE CITY WHICH ARE INDICATED ON THIS MAP. AT MY SIGNAL, THE GANGS OF MEN WILL BLACK OUT THESE VARIOUS SECTIONS-- THEN PROCEED WITH THE WHOLESALE PILLAGE AT THEIR WILL! IT WILL BE THE GREATEST CRIME COUP THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN!
NO! YOU MUSTN'T DO IT!!
AS THE NIGHT-OWL'S MEN RECEIVE THE "GO" SIGNAL AT THEIR VARIOUS STATIONS, THE CRIME CRUSADE BEGINS...
11
YOU ARE PROVING QUITE MEDDLESOME, YOUNG LADY! THEREFORE, IT'S BEST MY FEATHERED FRIEND ATTEND TO YOU!
NO-- NOT THE POISONED CLAWS...!
TIME FOR ME TO DISCARD THE DISGUISE!
SUPER-MAN!!
IN FLASHES THE MAN OF STEEL --AND A MOMENT BEFORE THE DEADLY CLAWS CAN SCRATCH LOIS.
MUSTN'T DO!
GOOD OL' SUPER-DOOPER! I CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON YOU!

I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU BOYS AND YOUR LEADER GOT BETTER ACQUAINTED!
SCR-EECH!!
YEE OW-WW!!
KEEP THEM COVERED WHILE I DASH OUT ON AN ERRAND THAT'LL SHOW NIGHT-OWL WASN'T SO WISE WHEN HE TRIED TO BLACK OUT LAW AND ORDER!
I'D LIKE NOTHING BETTER!
TO THE SPOTS THAT HAD BEEN INDICATED ON THE MAP WHIZZES THE MAN OF TOMORROW, SMASHING DARKNESS-PROJECTORS WITH STEEL FISTS...
LET'S HAVE SOME LIGHT ON THE SUBJECT!
AND IN EACH INSTANCE--AS THE LIGHT OF DAY FLASHES ON--STARTLED CRIMINALS FIND THEMSELVES ON THE RECEIVING END OF A FIGHTING CYCLONE...
HERE YOU ARE, CASEY--AND THERE'LL BE MORE COMING UP!
GREAT GUNS! YOU'VE CAPTURED ALMOST EVERY CROOK IN TOWN!
SHORTLY AFTER..
NOW THAT I'VE TAKEN CARE OF HIS LADS, I'LL SEE HOW NIGHT-OWL HIMSELF IS GETTING ALONG!
BUT AT THAT MOMENT-- NIGHT-OWL EXTINGUISHES THE FLARES IN THE CAVERN....
THE CAVERN IS FILLED WITH NATURAL DARKNESS NOW--THE BLACK-LIGHT GOGGLES WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD, YOUNG LADY... BUT AS A RESULT OF MY MANY DARKNESS EXPERIMENTS, I CAN SEE IN THE DARK!
K-KEEP AWAY!
AS NOISELESSLY AS THE CREATURE HE IS NAMED AFTER, NIGHT-OWL CIRCLES HIS PREY--THEN PREPARES TO STRIKE....
("-A SWIFT LEAP.... AND MY FINGERS WILL BE ABOUT HER THROAT!-")
BUT AT THAT MOMENT-- OUTSIDE THE CAVERN....
LOIS--IN TERRIBLE DANGER--I'VE BUT AN INSTANT TO ACT...!
12

SNATCHING UP THE GANGSTER-CAR, SUPERMAN RACES FOR THE CAVERN ENTRANCE...
THIS OUGHT TO DO IT!
AS NIGHT-OWL IS ABOUT TO SEIZE LOIS, TWO GLARING HEADLIGHTS STAB INTO HIS EYES, DAZZLING HIM....
MY EYES--MY EYES..!
AS I THOUGHT--BECAUSE OF YOUR CONSTANT DARKNESS EXPERIMENTS, YOUR EYES ARE EXTRAORDINARILY SENSITIVE TO LIGHT...
AWAY--I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY...!
YOU'RE GOING AWAY, ALL RIGHT!
TO A CELL!!
SHORTLY AFTER...
I TOLD YOU I HAD SOME MORE FOR YOU. BUT I'M NOT FINISHED YET. THERE'S STILL ONE MORE.
GREAT GUNS! YOU MUST HAVE HIT THE JACKPOT!
--AND LATER...
DON'T NEED YOU ANY LONGER! SERGEANT CASEY HAS RESERVED A CELL SPECIALLY FOR YOU!
WHAT CHANCE HAS A CROOK GOT NOWADAYS WITH YOU AROUND?
13
AND STILL LATER....
-THANKS TO SUPERMAN!
I'VE GOT TO HAND IT TO YOU, LOIS. THAT'S A SWELL YARN!
THE END
MAN OF STEEL BECOMES MAN OF THE MOVIES!
YOU'VE THRILLED TO SUPERMAN
IN PARAMOUNT'S ANIMATED CARTOONS IN TECHNICOLOR.
....NOW, DON'T MISS THE THRILLINGLY DIFFERENT ADVENTURE ENTITLED "SUPERMAN, MATINEE IDOL" IN SUPERMAN No 19
ON SALE SEPT. 4TH AT STANDS EVERYWHERE!


SUPERMAN
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SUPERMAN
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
BY JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
BEHIND YOU-- CAPTAIN IRONFIST!!
OF ALL THE BAD BUCCANEERS WHO INFESTED THE SEVEN SEAS MANY YEARS AGO, THE MOST SAVAGE OF ALL WAS SWAGGERING CAPTAIN IRONFIST. SUDDENLY THIS LONG-DEAD PIRATE APPEARS OUT OF THE PAST TO PLAGUE TWENTIETH CENTURY MERCHANTMEN WITH CUTLASS AND SHELL. DESPITE ALL HIS MIRACULOUS POWERS OF STRENGTH, WHAT CHANCE HAS SUPERMAN IN COMBATTING THE SUPERNATURAL? YOU'LL FIND THE ANSWER TO THIS PUZZLING QUESTION IN THE SWASHBUCKLING, UNUSUAL TALE OF.... "THE PIRATE OF PLEASURE ISLAND."
1

IT ALL BEGAN WHEN STANLEY FINCHCOMB WAS A CHILD....
I'LL TEACH YOU NOT TO ACT LIKE A YOUNG HOODLUM!
BUT, DAD-- WE WERE ONLY PLAYING PIRATES!
LATER...THE FINCHCOMB HOME... AFTER STANLEY HAS RECEIVED A SEVERE SPANKING...
I WON'T PLAY PIRATES AGAIN-- I PROMISE!
ANOTHER THING. YOU'RE NEVER TO ENTER THE ATTIC. UNDERSTAND? NEVER!
YEARS LATER...
BUT-- I WAS READING IT AS PART OF MY ENGLISH HOME-WORK!
TREASURE ISLAND! I WON'T HAVE MY SON READING PIRATE STORIES!
("-THERE HE GOES --UP INTO THE ATTIC. I WONDER WHAT HE HAS UP THERE THAT HE'S SO ANXIOUS TO HIDE FROM ME?-")
THAT NIGHT, SHIVERING WITH FEAR, THE CURIOUS BOY CLIMBS THE ATTIC STAIRS, DREADING THE MYSTERY HE IS ABOUT TO UNVEIL...
SOON... I'LL KNOW...
BUT AS HE NEARS THE DOOR OF THE ROOM AT THE ATTIC'S REAR, HE UNEXPECTEDLY TRIPS OVER A METAL OBJECT...
OH-HHH!
CLANG!
D-DAD!
2
I WON'T DO IT AGAIN, DAD! I'LL KEEP OUT OF THE ATTIC! I PROMISE! I PROMISE!
DON'T WORRY... I'M NOT GOING TO SPANK YOU, SON. SOONER OR LATER YOU WOULD HAVE DISCOVERED THE ATTIC'S SECRET, ANYWAY.
COME. I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT I'VE TRIED TO HIDE FOR ALL THESE YEARS!

PIRATE TROPHIES! --BUT, FATHER, HOW --HOW DID YOU GET THEM?
THEY'RE FAMILY HEIRLOOMS-- HANDED DOWN FROM MY ANCESTORS!
NOT ANCESTORS TO BE PROUD OF, ARE THEY? BLACK NED; ONE-EYED TOM; JOLLY JACK; CUT THROAT DICK... KNAVES WHO PLUNDERED THE SEVEN SEAS! BUT THEY WERE ANGELS COMPARED TO THE MOST UNSPEAKABLE SCOUNDREL OF ALL...
...CAPTAIN IRONFIST!--
THAT PORTRAIT LOOKS-- ALMOST-- ALIVE!
AND THIS IS A MINIATURE OF THE MERRY ANNE, THE ACCURSED VESSEL OF CAPTAIN IRONFIST!
YOU MEAN--I'M DESCENDED FROM ALL THOSE WICKED PIRATES? BUT WHY DIDN'T YOU WANT ME TO KNOW?
BECAUSE I'VE ALWAYS HAD THE DREAD THAT THE MONSTROUS EVIL THAT LURKED IN OUR ANCESTORS MIGHT TURN UP AGAIN, PERHAPS IN YOU!
THE TERRIBLE SECRET EXACTS A DREADFUL TOLL FROM THE YOUNG BOY...
I AM DESCENDED OF THIEVES AND MURDERERS!
HEREDITY-- HEREDITY--
MY ANCESTORS DIED ON THE GALLOWS!
HEREDITY-- HEREDITY--
STANLEY'S FATHER OBSERVES HIS SON'S BROODING DEMEANOR AND DECIDES TO DESTROY THE CAUSE OF IT ALL-- THE HEIRLOOMS. BUT WHEN HE TRIES TO REMOVE THE PORTRAIT OF CAPTAIN IRONFIST...
PAY HEED TO MY COUNSEL, SON! BE A GOOD CITIZEN! THUS MAY YOU ATONE FOR THE MISDEEDS OF OUR ANCESTORS!
I--I PROMISE, DAD!
A DYING THREAT...
BUT I WARN YOU, BOY! IF YOU PERMIT THE EVIL VENOM OF OUR FAMILY TO CREEP INTO YOUR VEINS, I'LL COME BACK FROM THE DEAD... AND MAKE YOU PAY FOR BREAKING YOUR WORD!
3

AS STANLEY FINCHCOMB GROWS TO MANHOOD, HE SEEKS TO FULFILL HIS PLEDGE TO HIS FATHER-- HE DEVELOPS PLEASURE ISLAND, A UNIQUE AMUSEMENT PARK... AND WHERE HIS ANCESTORS HAD SPREAD MISERY, HE SPREADS LAUGHTER, GAIETY...
BUT, STRANGELY, HIS INTEREST IN PIRATES HAS INCREASED! IN A SECRET STUDY ON PLEASURE ISLAND HE AVIDLY READS HUNDREDS OF VOLUMES ON BUCCANEERS. ONE EVENING HE READS AN EXCITING PASSAGE CONCERNING CAPTAIN IRONFIST...
WHAT'S THAT? I THOUGHT I HEARD A LOW CHUCKLE.
--THEN, AS THE CHUCKLE INCREASES TO DEAFENING PEALS OF LAUGHTER...
C-CAPTAIN IRONFIST!
HO! HO! HO! RIGHT YE ARE, ME FINE BUCKO!
BUT THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE! YOU CAN'T JUST STEP OUT OF A PICTURE LIKE THAT!
BUT YE SAW IT WITH YER OWN EYES, LAD-- DIDN'T YE?
HM-MM. NOT SO GOOD.
YOU LOOK DIS-PLEASED.
AN' WHY SHOULDN'T I BE? LOOK AT YOU SITTIN' THERE SO COMFY WHEN TH' TREASURES O' THE WORLD ARE WAITIN' TO BE GRASPED! YOU'RE A WEAKLING!
BUT SURELY YOU'RE NOT SUGGESTING THAT I BECOME A PIRATE! I-- I PROMISED MY FATHER!
PROMISES? BAH!-- YOU'VE GOT MY OLD CLOTHES HERE IN YOUR RELICS-- EVEN ONE OF MY IRON FISTS. PUT THEM ON!
MINUTES LATER...
I-- I MAY LOOK LIKE YOU, SIR... BUT I STILL FEEL LIKE STANLEY FINCHCOMB!
MOVE OVER, LAD, WHILE I HELP OCCUPY YER MORTAL BODY!
HO! HO! HO! CAPTAIN IRONFIST-- COME OUT OF THE PAST TO PLAGUE THE 20TH CENTURY! SOON THE MERRY ANNE WILL SAIL THE SEAS IN SEARCH OF LOOT AGAIN-- WITH ME AT ITS HELM!
LATER...
THE FIERCE FIGHTING BLOOD OF MY ANCESTORS-- I CAN FEEL IT FLOWING THRU MY VEINS! THE DESIRE TO ROB, KILL! THIS VISITATION FROM CAPTAIN IRONFIST! IT MAY HAVE BEEN ALL A DREAM BUT DREAM OR NOT-- CAPTAIN IRONFIST HAS RETURNED!
4

MONTHS LATER, THE CAPTAIN OF THE NICODEMUS, NEARING METROPOLIS WITH A RICH SOUTH AMERICAN CARGO, IS GREETED BY AN AMAZING SIGHT...
I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND!
I SAID-- PREPARE TO BE BOARDED! IF YE DON'T HEAVE TO, WE'LL BLAST AWAY WITH OUR DECK-GUNS!

I THOUGHT THIS MUST BE SOME SORT OF JOKE. BUT NOW I SAY-- GET OFF THIS VESSEL!
SHIVER ME TIMBERS! SO IT'S A JOKE YOU CALL IT, EH?

A SLEDGEHAMMER BLOW FROM THE METAL FIST VICIOUSLY DOWNS THE CAPTAIN OF THE NICODEMUS...
HO! HO! HO! AN' SO IT IS! CONVULSING!
IS THIS REALLY THE 20th CENTURY? I'M BEGINNING TO WONDER!
QUIET, MATEY, OR YOU'LL TASTE THE EDGE O' MY THIRSTY SABER!

FIRST, THE WIRELESS IS SMASHED...

...THEN THE BOOTY IS TRANSFERRED TO THE MERRY ANNE!
5

AFTER THE MERRY ANNE HAS OUTDISTANCED ITS PREY, A STRANGE TRANSFORMATION OCCURS! DOWN COME SAILS AND RIGGING... THE ORNATE RAILS ARE REMOVED... AND SHORTLY AFTER, IT GLIDES INTO THE HARBOR OF PLEASURE ISLAND-- AS AN AMUSEMENT PARK TRANSPORT VESSEL...
ER--WE DID RATHER WELL FOR OURSELVES, DIDN'T WE, SIR?
AN' WE'VE BARELY BEGUN, LAD!
PSST! TH' BOSS IS TALKIN' TO HISSELF AGAIN!
I DUNNO... THIS ANCIENT RACKET TH' BOSS DUG UP PAYS PLENTY... BUT SOMETIMES I WONDER IF WE'RE WORKIN' FOR A MADMAN!

THIS IS POSITIVELY THE MOST COLORFUL STORY TO COME OUR WAY IN YEARS--A 20TH CENTURY BUCCANEER WHO HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED AS THE LONG-DEAD CAPTAIN IRONFIST...
SO ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS TRACK DOWN A GHOST, EH?
SOME ASSIGNMENT!
WHAT'S THAT? DISTRESS SIGNAL HAS BEEN BROADCAST BY THE JACKSONIAN, BOUND FOR METROPOLIS, CLAIMING ATTACK BY ANCIENT PIRATE VESSEL?!
COME ON, CLARK! THAT'S OUR CUE!
I'M WAY AHEAD OF YOU!
OUTDISTANCING LOIS, CLARK CHARGES INTO A DESERTED OFFICE AND CHANGES TO HIS SECRET IDENTITY AS SUPERMAN...
THERE ISN'T MUCH CLARK KENT CAN DO TO AID THE JACKSONIAN...BUT SUPERMAN CAN DO PLENTY!
NOW WHERE ON EARTH DID CLARK DISAPPEAR TO?
A FEW BRIEF MOMENTS AFTER SUPERMAN COMPLETES THE TRANSFORMATION
LOIS! ("--HOW MUCH DID SHE SEE?--")
SUPERMAN!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I--I--ER--I JUST DROPPED IN TO ASK IF YOU KNEW OF ANYONE NEEDING HELP OR OF A CRIME THAT NEEDS CRUSHING.
6
YOU'VE COME TO THE RIGHT PARTY! THE JACKSONIAN, AT SEA, IS BEING ATTACKED BY A PIRATE SHIP RIGHT OUT OF THE PAST. AND SINCE I'VE TIPPED YOU OFF, I INSIST YOU TAKE ME ALONG.
IT'S A DEAL. ("--I CAN'T VERY WELL REFUSE HER--")
HO! HO! IF I COULD ONLY SEE THE EXPRESSION ON CLARK'S FACE IF HE KNEW THAT I'M ON MY WAY TO SCORE A SCOOP!
I'M SURE IT WOULD LOOK VERY COMIC. ("--HOW AM I GOING TO CLEAN UP A PIRATE CREW WITH A PRETTY GIRL IN THE WAY?--")

AS IRONFIST AND HIS MEN DEPART FROM THE JACKSONIAN...
BUT SURELY YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LEAVE US IN THIS HELPLESS POSITION?
HAW! HAW! THAT, CAPTAIN, IS EXACTLY WHAT ME LADS AN' I PLAN!
FIRE AWAY!
BUT IF WE DO, THEY'LL ALL DIE!
FIGHTING 'EM FOR THEIR DOUGH IS OKAY BY ME... BUT THIS WOULD BE COLD-BLOODED MURDER!
BLAST MY SOUL IF'N I AIN'T GOT ME A MESS O' PANTYWAISTS FER A CREW. VERY WELL, ME FINE BUCKOS--I'LL DO ME OWN DIRTY WORK!
OFF SAILS THE MERRY ANNE, LEAVING A DANGEROUSLY LISTING JACKSONIAN IN ITS MURDEROUS WAKE...
HOW WILL YOU GET ME OUT TO THE JACKSONIAN WITHOUT DUNKING ME IN THE OCEAN?
GET IN THERE. I'LL DO THE REST!
WHEE! THIS IS FUN!
SEE THAT YOU HOLD TIGHT OR DAVY JONES MAY HAVE THE LAST LAUGH!
SUPERMAN COVERS MILES IN SECONDS...
LOOK--THE JACKSONIAN --ABOUT TO TURN OVER ON ITS SIDE!
EXCUSE ME, LOIS. I'M GOING TO BE VERY BUSY FOR THE NEXT FEW MINUTES!
7

MEANWHILE -- IN THE CAPTAIN'S CABIN OF THE *MERRY ANNE*...
DID WE DO WELL TODAY, SIR?
QUITE WELL, ME BOY! AN' NOW IF VE'LL EXCUSE ME, THERE ARE SOME FRIENDS OF MINE, I WANT T' JOIN ACROSS TH' GREAT DIVIDE!
MINUTES LATER, A MEEKER EDITION OF **CAPTAIN IRON-FIST** IS CONFRONTED BY ANGRY CREW MEMBERS ..
WE MEN HAVE BEEN TALKIN' IT OVER--THIS IS THE SECOND BIG JOB WE'VE PULLED... AN' WE STILL AIN'T SEEN A CENT O' PROFIT!
WE WANT OUR SHARE -- AND RIGHT NOW!
W-WELL, IF --IF THAT'S THE CASE ...FOLLOW ME.
YOU MAY HELP YOUR-SELVES TO YOUR AGREED SHARE!
(THIS LOOKS FISHY TO ME. HERE I WAS SCARED OLD **IRONFIST** WOULD BASH IN OUR SKULLS FOR DARING TO SPEAK UP!)
THIS IS MORE LIKE IT!
I TELL YOU, **CAPTAIN IRON-FIST** IS AFRAID OF US! IF NOT, THEN WHY DID HE HAND OUR SHARES OVER TO US WITHOUT A SQUAWK?
THAT BLUSTERING FRONT OF HIS IS NOTHING BUT A COVER-UP FOR HIS COWARDICE.
IF WE WERE TO KNOCK HIM OFF, ALL THE BOOTY WOULD BE **OURS**!!
OH, DEAR! IT'S AS I FEARED! THE CREW IS PLOTTING MUTINY! IF ONLY **IRONFIST** WERE HERE TO COUNSEL ME!
BUT I AM HERE, STANLEY, ME LAD! SO IT'S A BIT O' ADVICE YER NEEDIN', EH?
PS-ST, PS-ST!
OH, MY! ISN'T THAT RATHER-- ER--*DRASTIC*?
LANDLUBBERS! BY THE WHISKERS O' MY ANCESTORS I'LL SHOW THOSE MUTINOUS RASCALS THE FURY O' CAPTAIN IRONFIST!
8

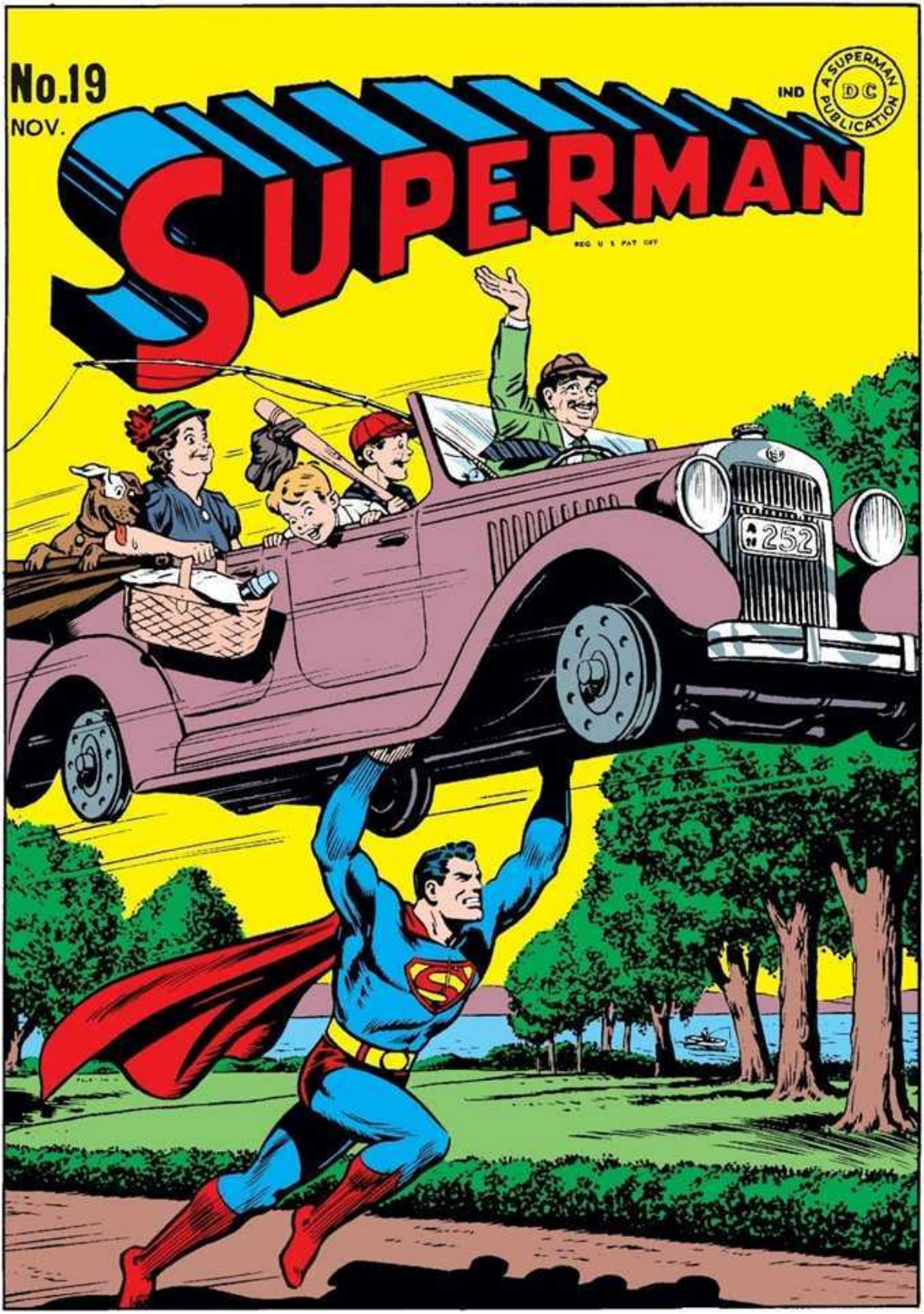
COME ON, MEN! WE'LL STRING THAT POMPOUS FOOL UP FROM THE HIGHEST MAST, AND.... YAA-AAA-AAA!
PLOT AGAINST CAP'N IRON-FIST, WILL YE? HERE'S YER ADDED LOOT--IN LEAD!
ANYONE ELSE DISSATISFIED WITH TH' WAY I RUN THINGS?
(GULP!) WE WERE FOR YA ALL ALONG, CAPTAIN! IT WAS THOSE RING-LEADERS WHO WERE TO BLAME!
(THE GUY'S A TERROR! HOW WE EVER GOT TH' IDEA HE WAS A SOFTIE IS BEYOND ME!)
SHORTLY AFTER...AS THE MERRY ANNE IS TRANSFORMED TO AN AMUSEMENT PARK TRANSPORT VESSEL-- PLEASURE ISLAND LOOMS A SHORT DISTANCE AHEAD...
BLOOD ON MY HANDS. FOR THE FIRST TIME, I'M A MURDERER! WH-WHAT WOULD FATHER SAY IF HE WERE ALIVE?
HOW MANY TIMES MUST I TELL YE NOT TO MENTION YOUR FATHER'S NAME WHEN I'M AROUND? IT ANNOYS ME!
(PS-ST! THE CHIEF IS TALKIN' TO HISSELF AGAIN!)
MEANWHILE-- DIVING BENEATH THE OVERTURNING VESSEL, AND SEIZING ITS KEEL, SUPERMAN YANKS BACK WITH ALL HIS MIGHT...
REVERSE!
...SO THE DOOMED SHIP UPRIGHTS ITSELF!
NICE JOB! IF SUPERMAN WOULD GO INTO THE SALVAGE BUSINESS, HE'D CLEAN UP A FORTUNE!
BE BACK, LOIS, JUST AS SOON AS I TAKE THIS PUNCTURED VESSEL SAFELY ASHORE.
DON'T MIND ME! I'M HAVING A SWELL TIME WATCHING THIS SHOW FROM A BOX SEAT!
AFTER SUPERMAN FREES THE MEN ABOARD THE JACKSONIAN...
WE'LL ALWAYS BE GRATEFUL TO YOU!
I CERTAINLY WOULD LIKE TO GET ON THAT PIRATE'S TRAIL RIGHT NOW--BUT I'VE GOT TO GO BACK AND PLAY NURSEMAID TO LOIS!

I HOPE YOU'RE NOT FINDING MY PRESENCE INCONVENIENT.
OH, NO! NOT AT ALL! TAKING YOU ON AN OCEAN TOUR IS MUCH MORE IMPORTANT THAN MY TRACKING DOWN A GANG OF PIRATES!
LOOK! THERE'S A BOAT! DO YOU THINK IT'S THE PIRATES?
WRONG, LOIS! EVEN WITHOUT MY TELESCOPIC VISION, I CAN RECOGNIZE IT TO BE ONE OF PLEASURE ISLAND'S TRANSPORT VESSELS.
LATER...
SURELY YOU'RE NOT GOING BACK INTO THE WATER! WHAT COULD YOU POSSIBLY FIND THERE?
PRIVACY!
AND STILL LATER... AT THE DAILY PLANET OFFICE...
TOO BAD YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO SCORE THAT SCOOP, CLARK. BUT, OF COURSE, YOU HAVEN'T THE "IN" WITH SUPERMAN THAT I HAVE!
HOW ABOUT GOING WITH ME TO PLEASURE ISLAND TONIGHT, LOIS, AND FORGETTING OUR BUSINESS RIVALRY... FOR A CHANGE?
THAT NIGHT...
IT CAN'T BE A GHOST-SHIP, BECAUSE I, FOR ONE, DON'T BELIEVE IN GHOSTS!
--AND THE STRANGEST ASPECT OF THE ENTIRE CASE, CLARK, IS HOW THAT PIRATE VESSEL MANAGES TO COME AND GO UNOBSERVED.
LITTLE DO CLARK AND LOIS REALIZE THAT THEY ARE ON THE DECK OF THE VERY VESSEL THEY HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING!
BUT AS LOIS LEANS BACK AGAINST A PANEL, HER WEIGHT UNEXPECTEDLY PUTS IT INTO OPERATION...
WHERE'S LOIS? DID I SAY SOMETHING THAT OFFENDED HER? OH, WELL--IF SHE'S GOING TO BE STUBBORN, SO CAN I. I WON'T LOOK FOR HER!
RENDERED UNCONSCIOUS BY HER FALL, LOIS LIES QUIETLY IN THE SMALL SPACE BEHIND THE REVERSIBLE PANEL...
10

LATER... WHEN THE TRANSPORT VESSEL DOCKS...
STILL NO SIGN OF LOIS. THAT GIRL! SHE CAN BE CONTRARY, MULE-HEADED, AGGRAVATING ...AND YET... I THINK SHE'S SWELL!
AND SOON AFTER... CAPTAIN IRONFIST SAILS AGAIN...!!
CHANGE THE TRANSPORT INTO THE MERRY ANNE ONCE WE'RE WELL AT SEA! MEN, IF EVERYTHING GOES AS I'VE PLANNED, WE'LL GATHER ENOUGH LOOT THIS NIGHT TO RENDER OUR NAMES IMMORTAL IN THE HISTORY OF FREEBOOTERY!
MEANWHILE...
3 BALLS 10¢
BUT I REPEAT, THIS SAME IS ON THE LEVEL!
WELL, I THINK DIFFERENTLY! I DEMAND TO SEE THE MANAGER OF THIS AMUSEMENT PARK!
SHORTLY AFTER... OUTSIDE STANLEY FINCHCOMB'S MANSION....
THE BOSS AIN'T HOME!
HE ISN'T, EH? ("-I'LL RELY MORE ON MY X-RAY VISION THAN ON THIS THUG'S WORD!-")
WHAT CLARK SEES IN STANLEY'S SECRET STUDY--HUNDREDS OF BOOKS ON PIRACY--OLD SEAFARING COSTUMES...AND...THE HUGE PAINTING OF--IRONFIST!
HURRYING DOWN TO THE DOCK, SUPERMAN NOTES THAT A DIFFERENT TRANSPORT VESSEL HAS REPLACED THE ONE ON WHICH HE HAD VOYAGED TO PLEASURE ISLAND.
THOSE BOOKS--THAT PAINTING--THE TRANSPORT BOAT I SAW EARLIER TODAY WHEN I SOUGHT TO LOCATE THE PIRATE VESSEL! AND NOW--THE OTHER SHIP--MISSING...
IT ALL ADDS UP TO ONE THING! ACTION FOR SUPERMAN!
11
AS THE DESPERADOES BUSY THEMGELVES TRANSFORMING THE TRANSPORT TO THE PIRATE CRAFT, ONE OF THEM MAKES A STARTLING DISCOVERY...
OH-HH--MY HEAD!
LOOK WHAT I'VE FOUND --A GIRL!
SHIVER ME TIMBERS --A STOWAWAY!

SPEAK UP, GIRL! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I--I DON'T KNOW. THE LAST I REMEMBER IS TRAVELING TOWARD PLEASURE ISLAND... THEN EVERYTHING WENT BLACK. I--I'M LOIS LANE, A REPORTER. AND YOU--WHY... YOU'RE PIRATES!!
SHE'LL WALK THE PLANK FOR THIS SPYING! BIND HER ARMS BEHIND HER--BLINDFOLD HER --GET A PLANK...!
THE TERRIFIED GIRL IS FORCED TO OBEY THE HEARTLESS BLACKGUARD'S WILL....
EEE-EEE
HO! HO! HO! HAVEN'T HAD THIS MUCH FUN IN CENTURIES!
NO SIGN OF THE GIRL!
SHE SANK LIKE A PLUMMET!
AND SO DIES ANY-ONE WHO DARES THE WRATH OF IRONFIST! I'M AFEERED O' NO ONE, YE HEAR--MAN OR BEAST!
AS LOIS SINKS BENEATH THE WATER'S SURFACE, STEELY FINGERS RIP OFF HER BONDS...
YE HEARD ME--THEY AIN'T NO LIVIN' MAN WHO'S A MATCH FER IRONFIST! I SLAUGHTER 'EM ONE AN' ALL! ONE BLOW FROM THIS IRON FIST O' MINE, AND THEY'RE MINCEMEAT!
H-HOW DID YOU GET HERE IN TIME TO HELP ME?
I MANAGE TO GET AROUND. NOW GRAB HOLD OF MY ARM AND I'LL HAVE YOU BACK UP ON THAT DECK IN A JIFFY!
B-B-B-B-BEHIND YOU!
A MATCH FOR ANYONE EXCEPT--SUPERMAN!
WH-WHO DID YOU SAY?!
YIPE! HE SAID SUPERMAN! THIS IS NO PLACE FOR AN OLD, TIRED GHOST!
AND NOW TO SEE JUST HOW TOUGH YOU ARE!
12

STANLEY FINCHCOMB BATTLES WITH THE INSANE DESPERATION OF A CORNERED RAT...
TAKE THAT, AND THAT, AND THAT!
CLUNK CLUNK
WHAT ARE YOU PLAYING-- AN EXCERPT FROM THE "ANVIL CHORUS"?
NO ENCORE DESIRED!
GET HIM! GET HIM! GET HIM!
WE'LL PULVERIZE HIM!
PARDON, BOYS --BUT YOU'RE IN MY BACKYARD! PULVERIZING IS STRICTLY MY LINE!
THE SPIRIT OF IRONFIST.... IT'S DESERTED ME! ONLY ONE THING I CAN DO TO ESCAPE SUPERMAN! FLEE... FLEE!!!
--I WARN YOU, BOY! IF YOU PERMIT THE EVIL VENOM THAT HAS CURSED OUR FAMILY FOR CENTURIES TO CREEP INTO YOUR VEINS, I'LL COME BACK FROM THE DEAD... AND MAKE YOU PAY FOR BREAKING YOUR WORD!
NO! NO! YAAA- AAA-AGH!
SUPERMAN RACES IN... BUT TOO LATE TO PREVENT THE FATAL PLUNGE...
YOU'RE DYING... HAVE YOU ANY FINAL WORDS TO SAY?
I NEVER REALLY WANTED TO BE BAD... BUT WHEN THE GHOST OF IRONFIST ENTERED ME I WAS TRANSFORMED INTO A FIEND... MY FATHER KEPT HIS WORD-- CAME BACK FROM THE DEAD TO PUNISH ME...
13
LATER... AFTER SUPERMAN TRANSPORTS THE MERRY ANNE AND ITS MOTLEY CREW TO THE MAINLAND AND THE POLICE...
THANKS FOR ANOTHER WONDERFUL SCOOP!
THANKS RECEIVED AND ACKNOWLEDGED. NOW STICK TO YOUR TYPEWRITER!
WEEKS LATER... AS CLARK AND LOIS DISCUSS THE STRANGE CASE OF STANLEY FINCHCOMB...
DO YOU THINK IRONFIST AND STANLEY'S FATHER ACTUALLY CAME BACK FROM THE DEAD? ARE SUCH THINGS POSSIBLE?
THERE WAS NO GHOST OF CAPTAIN IRONFIST OR OF MR. FINCHCOMB. THEY UNDOUBTEDLY WERE CREATED BY STANLEY'S OVERACTIVE IMAGINATION!
THE END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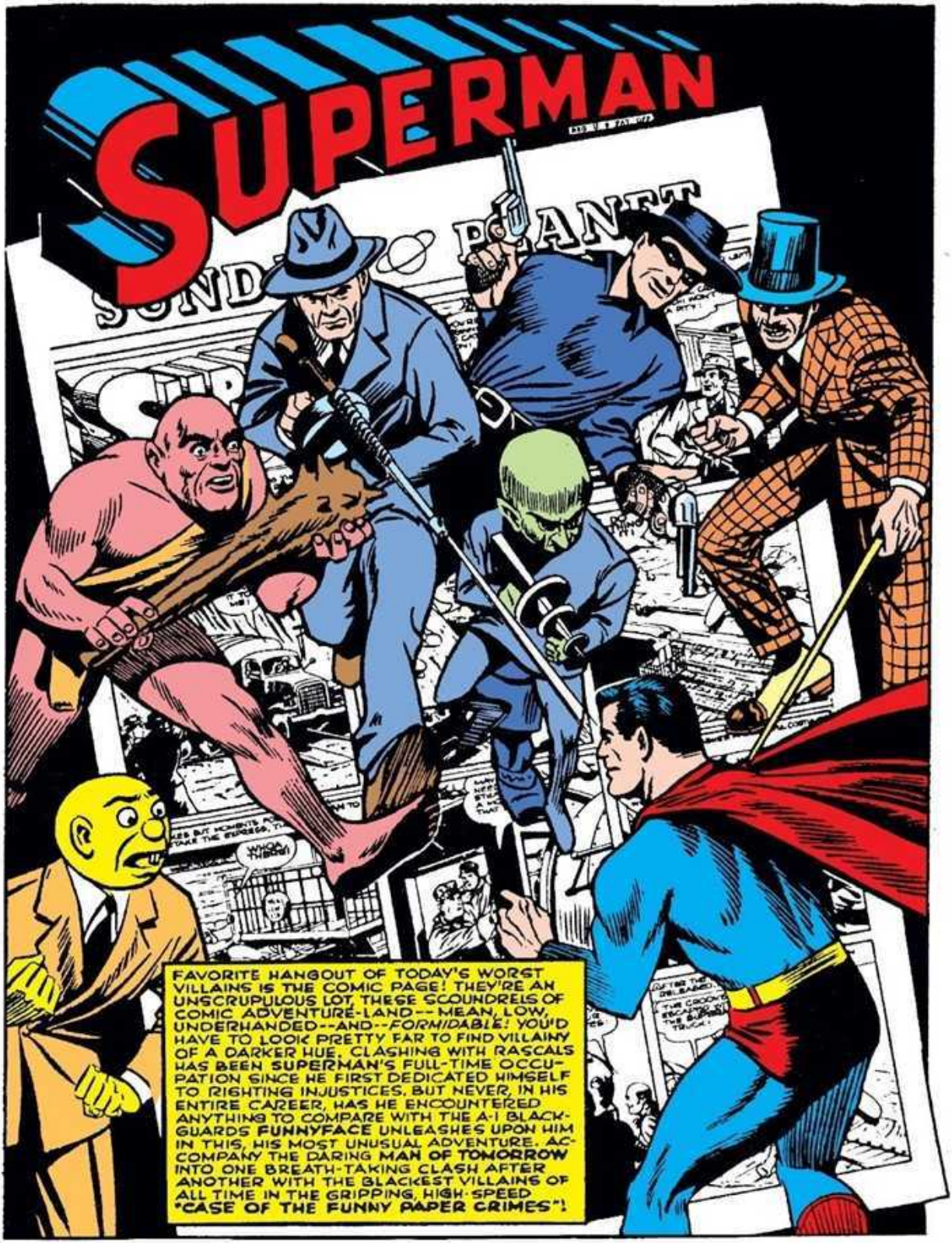

SUPERMAN
FAVORITE HANGOUT OF TODAY'S WORST VILLAINS IS THE COMIC PAGE! THEY'RE AN UNSCRUPULOUS LOT, THESE SCOUNDRELS OF COMIC ADVENTURE-LAND -- MEAN, LOW, UNDERHANDED -- AND -- *FORMIDABLE!* YOU'D HAVE TO LOOK PRETTY FAR TO FIND VILLAINY OF A DARKER HUE. CLASHING WITH RASCALS HAS BEEN **SUPERMAN'S** FULL-TIME OCCUPATION SINCE HE FIRST DEDICATED HIMSELF TO RIGHTING INJUSTICES. BUT NEVER, IN HIS ENTIRE CAREER, HAS HE ENCOUNTERED ANYTHING TO COMPARE WITH THE A-1 BLACKGUARDS **FUNNYFACE** UNLEASHES UPON HIM IN THIS, HIS MOST UNUSUAL ADVENTURE. ACCOMPANY THE DARING **MAN OF TOMORROW** INTO ONE BREATH-TAKING CLASH AFTER ANOTHER WITH THE BLACKEST VILLAINS OF ALL TIME IN THE GRIPPING, HIGH-SPEED **"CASE OF THE FUNNY PAPER CRIMES"!**

ATOP A FREIGHT CAR PRECARIOUSLY RUMBLING ACROSS A HIGH TRESTLE, TWO FIGHTING FIGURES DESPERATELY WAGE A GRIM BATTLE, WITH DEATH THE LOSER'S PENALTY...
YOU'VE TRAILED ME ACROSS A CONTINENT, DETECTIVE CRAIG! BUT NOW THAT YOU'VE FOUND ME, YOU DIE!
IT'S TOO EARLY TO FORECAST THIS STRUGGLE'S OUTCOME, MACHINE-GUN MIKE!
IN STORIES, THE DETECTIVE ALWAYS WINS OUT OVER THE CROOK! BUT THIS IS REAL LIFE!
DOWN OFF THE HIGH TRESTLE PLUMMETS A SHRIEKING BODY--DOWN TOWARD THE TURBULENT RIVER FAR BELOW! SOMEONE IS GOING TO DIE--BUT WHO--DETECTIVE CRAIG, OR MACHINE-GUN MIKE?!
YA-AA-A!
TO BE CONTINUED!
I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU WERE A COMIC STRIP FAN!
AVID IS THE WORD FOR IT! GOSH, TAKE THIS DETECTIVE CRAIG STRIP, FOR EXAMPLE. I WON'T BE ABLE TO SLEEP TONIGHT, WORRYING WHETHER OR NOT CRAIG OR MACHINE-GUN MIKE IS THE ONE WHO WILL DIE.
The DAILY O PLAN
MIND IF I LOOK AT THE COMIC PAGE? I WANT TO SEE HOW PRINCE PERIL IS DOING!
SO YOU LIKE THE FUNNIES TOO, EH? WELL, WHEN YOU COME DOWN TO IT, WHO DOESN'T?

The DAILY ⌀ PLANET

PRINCE PERIL — BY HUGH LANGLEY

MY FATHER'S IN THERE -- A PRISONER OF TERRIBLE TORGO!
THEY SAY TORGO IS AS STUPID AS HE IS BIG -- NO NEED TO FEAR FOR YOUR FATHER OR ME!
TORGO!!
AND HERE IS WHERE I SHALL PROVE TO YOU PRINCESS, JUST HOW STUPID HE IS!

DETECTIVE CRAIG — BY DON GLENN

ATOP A FREIGHT CAR PRECARIOUSLY RUMBLING ACROSS A HIGH TRESTLE TWO FIGHTING FIGURES WAGE A GRIM BATTLE....
YOU'VE TRAILED ME ACROSS A CONTINENT, DETECTIVE CRAIG, BUT NOW THAT YOU'VE FOUND ME, YOU DIE!
IT'S TOO EARLY TO FORECAST THIS STRUGGLES OUTCOME, HACKING GUN MIKE!
IN STORIES, THE DETECTIVE ALWAYS WINS OUT OVER THE CROOK! BUT THIS IS REAL LIFE!
YA-A
-- TO BE CONTINUED

THE SOLITARY RIDER — BY CLIFF LAND

COME OUT, BLACK RAIDER!
HERE I COME -- SHOOTING!
UNEXPECTEDLY, BLACK RAIDER STEPS INTO VIEW FROM BEHIND A NEARBY SHACK -- AND FIRES!
GOT HIM IN THE BACK!
YOU -- COWARD...!

STREAK DUGAN — BY C.C. COOK

HAPPY DAZE — BY JIM JOHNSON

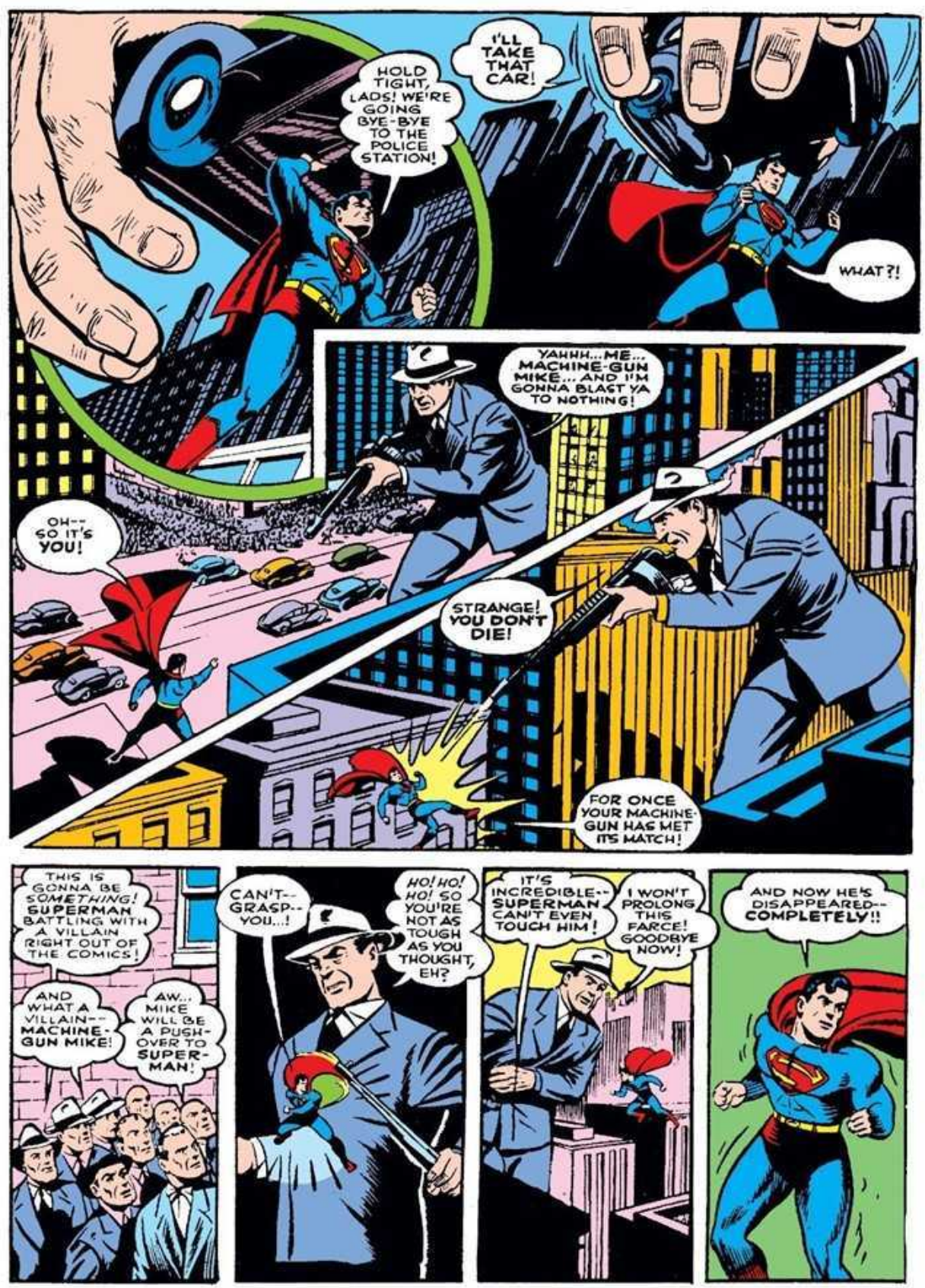
FREE THAT GIRL!
AND IF I REFUSE?
THEN, SO HELP ME, I SHALL THRASH YOU, VIPER, AS YOU HAVE NEVER BEEN THRASHED BEFORE!
HEH! HEH!
WHAT NEW DEVILTRY HAVE YOU UP YOUR SLEEVE!
HEH! HEH! YOU SHALL SEE!
IT'S CURTAINS FOR YOU, HAPPY!
A BLUNDER-BUSS!

ODD HOW THOSE IMPOSSIBLE CHARACTERS GET A GRIP ON YOU. TAKE TORGO, FOR INSTANCE-- THE MENACING GIANT IN PRINCE PERIL. YOU KNOW AND I KNOW THAT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR SUCH CREATURES TO EXIST-- YET WE ENJOY READING ABOUT THEM.
AND EVEN AS CLARK SPEAKS...
LOOK!
IT'S FRIGHTFUL!
UP THERE!
A COLOSSAL GIANT TOWERS OVER THE NATIONAL BANK IN METROPOLIS' FINANCIAL SECTION...
WHAT IS IT?
MY GOSH! IT'S--
TORGO-- THE MONSTER-GIANT IN THE PRINCE PERIL COMIC STRIP!
GALVANIZING INTO ACTION, THE HORRENDOUS TITAN RIPS THE ROOF OFF THE BANK BUILDING-- SCOOPS UP HANDFULS OF LOOT...
SW!SH-H-H
...THEN RACES OFF, LOADED WITH BOOTY!
GET DOWN TO THE NATIONAL BANK-- A REPORT HAS JUST COME IN THAT A MONSTER-GIANT HAS ROBBED IT!
HURRY, CLARK!
YOU CAN GO ALONE. IT SOUNDS LIKE A HOAX TO ME!
IN AN EMPTY HALLWAY, CLARK KENT SWITCHES TO THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS ACTION COSTUME.
HOAX OR NO HOAX, IT'S UP TO SUPERMAN TO LOOK INTO THE SITUATION!
UP-- UP-- AND AWA-AAY!!!

IN BARE INSTANTS, THE MAN OF TOMORROW ARRIVES AT HIS DESTINATION...
NO DOUBT ABOUT IT-- SOMEONE WENT ON A RAMPAGE!
WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE, CASEY?
THEY TELL ME THE CULPRIT WAS TORGO, THE GIANT IN THE PRINCE PERIL COMIC.
TORGO? ALIVE? !-- I'LL KNOW SOON ENOUGH WHETHER THAT'S A JOKE OR REALITY!
STOP
IT IS REALITY!
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT! BUT IF THAT VISION IS JUST A WALKING NIGHTMARE, IT'S GOING TO FEEL THE IMPACT OF REAL FISTS PRETTY SOON!
UNEXPECTEDLY, A PREHISTORIC MONSTER MATERIALIZES OUT OF THE EMPTY AIR...
WHOA! WHAT NOW?!
TWO AGAINST ONE!
HERE'S WHERE I PROVE THE MATHEMATICIANS ARE WRONG, AND THAT ONE IS GREATER THAN TWO--ESPECIALLY WHEN THE ONE HAPPENS TO BE ME!

BUT TO SUPERMAN'S AMAZEMENT...
WHIZZED RIGHT THRU!
BUT NEXT TIME...!
THEY'RE-- GONE...!
YES, YOU POOR, HELPLESS AND BEWILDERED EX- SUPERMAN ...GONE!
AND WHO IN BLAZES ARE YOU?
NOW WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO KNOW!
TELL ME...OR I'LL SOCK THAT SILLY GRIN CLEAR DOWN TO YOUR TOES!
YOU MAY CALL ME FUNNY-FACE!
BUT BEFORE HE CAN REACH THE APPARITION--IT VANISHES...
FIRST A GIANT OUT OF A COMIC STRIP... NEXT A PREHISTORIC MONSTER... THEN A SILLY-FACED GALOOT NAMED FUNNYFACE... AND THEY ALL VANISHED!
I'M NOT KIDDING, CHIEF! THAT BANK ROBBERY WAS PULLED BY NONE OTHER THAN TORGO, THE FUNNY PAPER MENACE IN PRINCE PERIL!
IMPOSSIBLE-- ABSURD! I SUPPOSE NEXT YOU'LL BE TELLING ME THAT DETECTIVE CRAIG'S FOE, MACHINE-GUN MIKE, IS RUNNING WILD.
CALLING ALL CARS! MACHINE-GUN MIKE ROBBING MINTON MUSEUM!
HUH?!
ONLY ONE EXPLA-NATION, BOSS! YOU'RE PSYCHIC!

THE WORLD HAS GONE MADHOUSE! GET DOWN TO THE MINTON MUSEUM BUT THIS TIME TURN IN A YARN THAT MAKES SENSE!
I'LL TRY!
INSIDE THE MUSEUM...
AS LONG AS GOOD OLD MACHINE-GUN MIKE IS OUT THERE COVERIN' THE PLACE!
WOTSA RUSH? WE GOT ALL TH' TIME IN TH' WORLD...
HURRY!
A GIANT-SIZED MACHINE-GUN MIKE KEEPS THE POLICE AT BAY AS HIS MEN FLEE THE MUSEUM WITH THE COSTLY PAINTINGS...
OKAY, BOSS! WE GOT A FORTUNE IN VALUABLE PAINTINGS!
GET INTO THE CAR AND SCRAM!
HEY! WHAT GOES ON--?!
WHERE ARE TH' PICTURES ???
MUSEUM
BACK WHERE YOU BELONG!
NO WONDER THINGS GOT TANGLED--LOOK WHO JUST RAN OUTA TH' MUSEUM!
SUPERMAN!
STEP ON IT!!
SLOW DOWN!!
WAIT FOR ME!


HOLD TIGHT, LADS! WE'RE GOING BYE-BYE TO THE POLICE STATION!
I'LL TAKE THAT CAR!
WHAT?!
YAHHH...ME... MACHINE-GUN MIKE... AND I'M GONNA BLAST YA TO NOTHING!
OH-- SO IT'S YOU!
STRANGE! YOU DON'T DIE!
FOR ONCE YOUR MACHINE-GUN HAS MET ITS MATCH!
THIS IS GONNA BE SOMETHING! SUPERMAN BATTLING WITH A VILLAIN RIGHT OUT OF THE COMICS!
AND WHAT A VILLAIN-- MACHINE-GUN MIKE!
AW... MIKE WILL BE A PUSH-OVER TO SUPER-MAN!
CAN'T-- GRASP-- YOU...!
HO! HO! HO! SO YOU'RE NOT AS TOUGH AS YOU THOUGHT, EH?
IT'S INCREDIBLE-- SUPERMAN CAN'T EVEN TOUCH HIM!
I WON'T PROLONG THIS FARCE! GOODBYE NOW!
AND NOW HE'S DISAPPEARED-- COMPLETELY!!

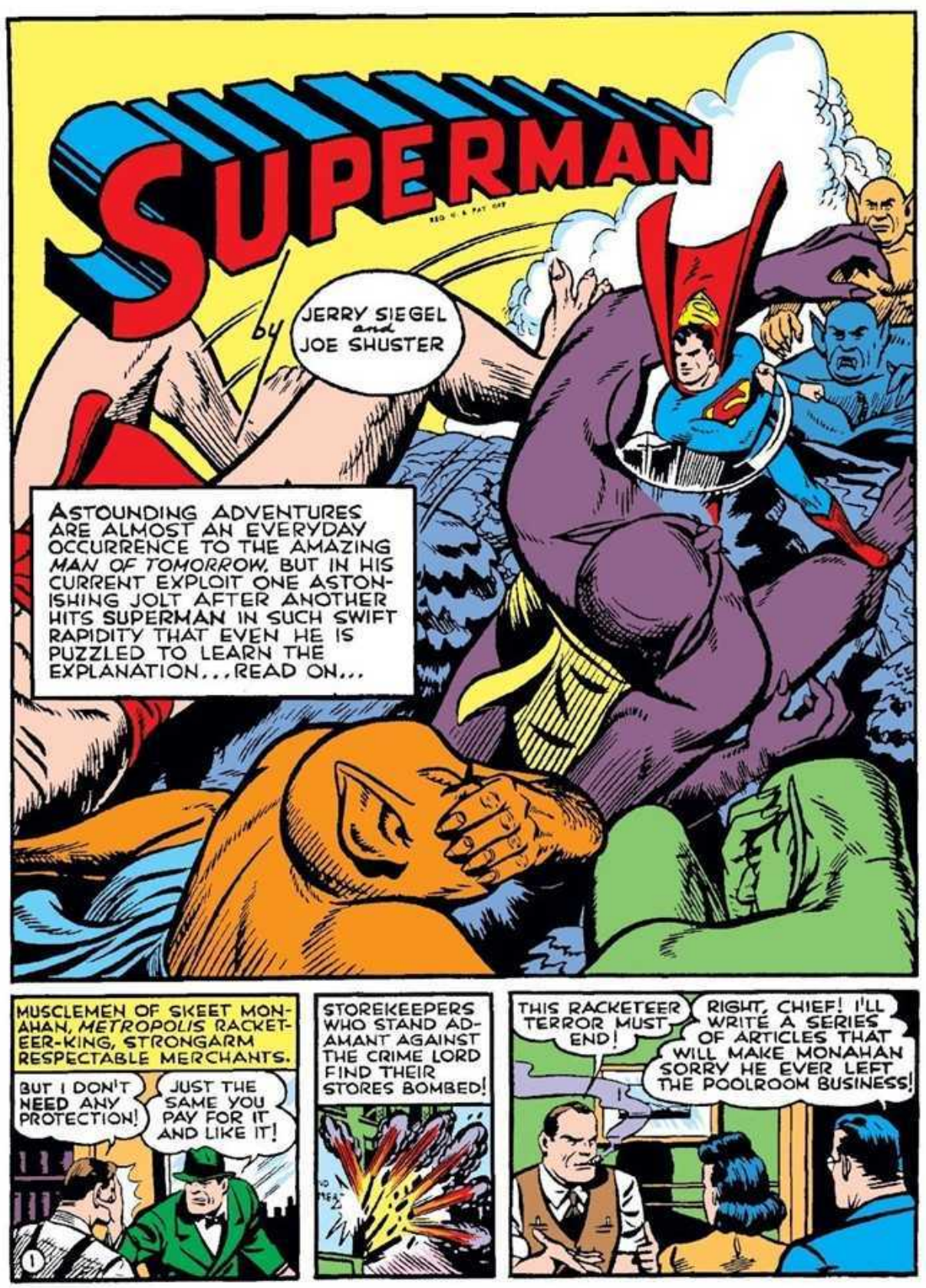
QUICK! LET'S BEAT IT WHILE WE CAN!
TRYING TO RUN OUT, EH?
I PROMISED YOU'D GO TO A CELL -- AND I KEEP MY PROMISES!
GOOD WORK, SUPERMAN! IF YOU ONLY COULD HAVE CAPTURED MACHINE-GUN MIKE, TOO...!
YOU CAN'T HAVE EVERYTHING, SERGEANT CASEY!
IN A NEARBY ALLEY, SUPERMAN CHANGES TO CLARK KENT...
IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA IF I WERE SEEN HEREABOUTS IN MY IDENTITY AS CLARK KENT ... SO THE QUESTION WON'T ARISE AS TO HOW I GOT MY FACTS...
CLARK! SO HERE YOU ARE!
BEEN LOOKING FOR ME, LOIS?
I'LL SAY I HAVE! WHAT'S THE IDEA OF RUNNING OFF AND COVERING THIS STORY YOURSELF?
SORRY, LOIS -- BUT THIS CASE FASCINATED ME SO... VILLAINS OUT OF THE COMICS... IT'S ALMOST AS THO SOMEONE WERE USING THE COMIC PAGE AS A CHART FOR CRIME...
CHART FOR CRIME...! HM-MM. MAYBE YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING THERE, CLARK. IF THAT WERE TRUE, THE NEXT VILLAIN TO POP UP WOULD BE THE BLACK RAIDER FROM THE SOLITARY RIDER COMIC.
IF IT WERE TRUE! BUT UNDOUBTEDLY IT ISN'T. FORGET THE IDEA, LOIS. IT'S SILLY.
("-SILLY, EH? I WONDER? HM-MM. THE MOST LOGICAL PLACE FOR THE BLACK RAIDER TO STRIKE IN METROPOLIS WOULD BE THE STOCKYARDS. THEREFORE, THAT'S MY NEXT STOP!-")

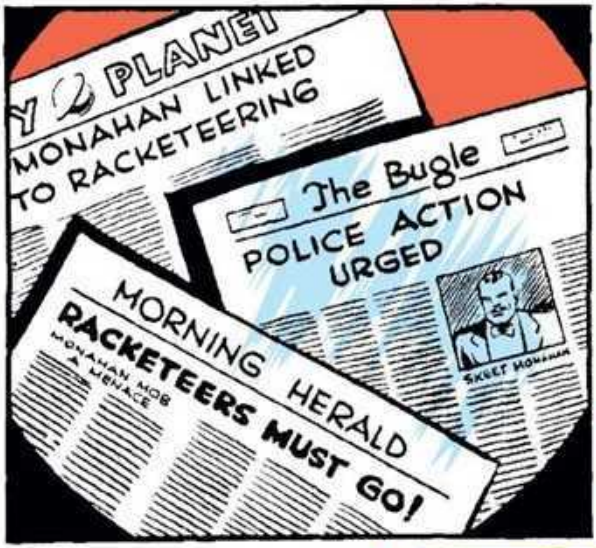
SHORTLY AFTER--WHEN LOIS REACHES THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING OF METROPOLIS' HUGE STOCKYARDS....
BUT I'M ALMOST POSITIVE OF IT!
WHAT UTTER NONSENSE! THE BLACK RAIDER ROB US? PREPOSTEROUS!
UP WITH YOUR HANDS --THIS IS A HOLDUP!
WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS OUTRAGE?
LOOK OUT THE WINDOW-- AND YOU'LL SEE!
THE BLACK RAIDER!
I TOLD YOU SO!
STOP THAT GIRL! SHE DUCKED INTO THE NEXT ROOM!
I'LL WARN-- BLACK RAIDER!
SLAM!
CLARK--I'M CALLING FROM THE STOCKYARDS! THE BLACK RAIDER HAS--EEE-EEEEE!!
LOIS-- LOIS... WHAT IS IT??! --THE LINE WENT DEAD!
LET'S GO, MEN!
LET ME GO-- YOU BIG STIFF!
CHANGING TO HIS SUPERMAN COSTUME, THE MAN OF TOMORROW STREAKS TO THE STOCK-YARD TO SIGHT AN AMAZING SCENE...
A CARAVAN OF CATTLE-LOADED TRUCKS!
HIT THE ROAD! I'M TAKING OVER THOSE TRUCKS!

AT THE TERRIFIC SPEED OF WHICH ONLY HE IS CAPABLE, SUPERMAN SPEEDS BACK AND FORTH, RETURNING THE TRUCKS TO THE STOCKYARD WITH THEIR STOLEN CARGO...
HERE YOU ARE! THE LAST OF THEM!
STOP BLACK RAIDER! HE'S SPED OFF WITH A GIRL REPORTER!
GIRL REPORTER! ...THAT SOUNDED LIKE A DESCRIPTION OF LOIS, AND SURE ENOUGH-- IT IS. I'LL SOON FREE HER!
I BEG TO DIFFER!
HEY! STOP IT!!
HO! HO! CAN'T TAKE IT, EH?
THEN...
GONE-- FUNNYFACE --BLACK RAIDER-- LOIS...BUT WAIT... WHAT'S THAT UP IN THE SKY?
HOVERING OVER A TRAIN LOADING A GOLD CARGO, A SPACE-VESSEL LOWERS A ROD THAT SUCKS THE GOLD INTO THE VESSEL'S INTERIOR...
IT'S-- GOOLA-- THE MARTIAN VILLAIN IN STREAK DUGAN!
BUT AS HE SEEKS TO ENGAGE HIS FOE IN COMBAT-- AGAIN... FUNNYFACE!
WHAT IS THIS-- A BALLOON BARRAGE?
THEN ONCE AGAIN FUNNYFACE IS GONE-- AND SO IS GOOLA...
WE'RE BEING BOMBARDED BY VILLAINS OUT OF THE COMIC PAGE! THAT LEAVES ONLY VIPER, THE VILLAIN OF THE HAPPY DAZE STRIP. I RECALL THAT IN THE COMIC VIPER IS ATTEMPTING TO ROB THE OLD FOLKS HOME OF ITS CAMPAIGN FUND.
LATER...
PERHAPS MY FEAR IS BASELESS, BUT I THOUGHT I OUGHT TO WARN YOU AGAINST THE CHARACTER NAMED VIPER.
YOUR WARNING WAS UNNECESSARY.
BECAUSE I AM VIPER!
AND SO YOU ARE!
OLD FOLKS HOME

AS THE MAN OF STEEL LEAPS AT THE HUGE FIGURE, ITS FEATURES CHANGE TO... FUNNYFACE!
TA-TA! IT'S BEEN FUN OUT-WITTING YOU--AGAIN!
("-ODD, WRITTEN ON THE FIGURE'S POCKET--A MESSAGE--CARTER'S CANYON!-")
AND AS THE FIGURE VANISHES, SUPERMAN SPEEDS OFF TOWARD HIS NEXT DESTINATION AS FAST AS THE WIND ITSELF!
THAT NOTE--IT MAY BE BAIT TO LEAD ME INTO A TRAP--BUT IT'S WORTH TAKING THE CHANCE!
MEANWHILE--WITHIN THE FARMHOUSE...
HA! HA! HA! THE ROOM BULGING WITH LOOT! NOT BAD FOR A BEGINNING, EH?
YOUR ABILITY TO MATERIALIZE TWO-DIMENSIONAL FIGURES OUT OF THE COMICS TO STEAL FOR YOU--I CAN STILL HARDLY CREDIT MY SENSES...!
YOU MEDDLING FOOL! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE? THESE DIRECTIONS ON THE SIDE OF VIPER'S DRAWN FIGURE--TELLING WHERE MY HIDEOUT IS...!
I WROTE THE DIRECTIONS WHEN YOU WEREN'T LOOKING!
AS FUNNY-FACE FOCUSES HIS WEIRD RAY ON THE COMIC CHARACTERS, THEY STEP OFF THE DRAWING PAPER AND GROW TO IMMENSE SIZE...
SUPERMAN WILL BE HERE ANY MOMENT! YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO!
WE KNOW!
I'LL STRING HIM UP!
WE'LL WIPE HIM OFFA TH' MAP!
FIVE OF THE BLACKEST VILLAINS OF ALL COMIC STRIP HISTORY GIVE SUPERMAN THE TOUGHEST OPPOSITION OF HIS CAREER!
GANGING UP, EH?
LOIS FOCUSES THE RAY ON THE DAILY PLANET COMIC PAGE AND ENLARGES THE HEROES OF THE VARIOUS COMICS...
PRINCE PERIL--DETECTIVE CRAIG--SOLITARY RIDER--STREAK DUGAN--HAPPY DAZE...! YOUR GREATEGT ENEMIES ARE ALL FIGHTING SUPERMAN! GET OUT THERE AND MAKE IT AN EVEN BATTLE!
A SCRAP, EH? YA-HOO LET'S GO!
INTO THE FRAY CHARGE THE COMIC STRIP HEROES, BATTLING THEIR INDIVIDUAL FOES IN CUSTOMARY STYLE....
REINFORCEMENTS, EH? SWELL!

BLAST YOU! THIS IS YOUR FAULT! I'LL FIX YOU FOR IT!
NO! LET GO!
HA-HA! MY RAY CAN ALSO REVERSE THE PROCESS! YOU'LL BE PUNISHED BY BEING TRANSFERRED TO A DRAWING ON A PIECE OF PAPER! HA, HA, HA!
FREE THAT GIRL!
I WON'T DO IT!
LET US ATTEND TO HIM!
ENOUGH! I'VE HAD ENOUGH!
THERE-- I'VE BROUGHT HER BACK TO NORMAL AGAIN.
WHAT A RELIEF!
I SUPPOSE ALL OF YOU ARE ANXIOUS TO GET BACK INTO YOUR MAKE-BELIEVE WORLD!
BY ALL MEANS!
AND SO THE FUNNY PAPER CHARACTERS ARE TRANSFERRED PERMANENTLY BACK TO THEIR COMIC PAGE EXISTENCE... THEREUPON, SUPERMAN SMASHES THE WEIRD MACHINE FOR ALL TIME...
NEXT--TO UNMASK YOU!
NO!
AND WHO ARE YOU? YOU LOOK UNFAMILIAR!
THAT WAS THE WHOLE TROUBLE! NOBODY KNOWS ME! I WANTED TO BE A CELEBRITY-- THE CREATOR OF A FAMOUS COMIC STRIP. BUT NO ONE WOULD BUY MY STRIPS. MY DIMENSIONAL EXPERIMENTATION ENABLED ME TO BRING COMIC CHARACTERS TO LIFE--AND I PUT THE STRIP VILLAINS TO WORK FOR ME TO GATHER ILLEGAL PROFITS!
LATER....
EVERY TIME I LOOK AT A COMIC PAGE I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE MY INCREDIBLE ADVENTURES. WITH THE STRIP VILLAINS EVER HAPPENED!
IT'S FUNNY-- BUT IT'S TRUE!
THE END


SUPERMAN
by
JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
ASTOUNDING ADVENTURES ARE ALMOST AN EVERYDAY OCCURRENCE TO THE AMAZING *MAN OF TOMORROW*, BUT IN HIS CURRENT EXPLOIT ONE ASTONISHING JOLT AFTER ANOTHER HITS SUPERMAN IN SUCH SWIFT RAPIDITY THAT EVEN HE IS PUZZLED TO LEARN THE EXPLANATION...READ ON...
MUSCLEMEN OF SKEET MONAHAN, *METROPOLIS* RACKETEER-KING, STRONGARM RESPECTABLE MERCHANTS.
BUT I DON'T NEED ANY PROTECTION!
JUST THE SAME YOU PAY FOR IT AND LIKE IT!
1
STOREKEEPERS WHO STAND ADAMANT AGAINST THE CRIME LORD FIND THEIR STORES BOMBED!
THIS RACKETEER TERROR MUST END!
RIGHT, CHIEF! I'LL WRITE A SERIES OF ARTICLES THAT WILL MAKE MONAHAN SORRY HE EVER LEFT THE POOLROOM BUSINESS!


Y 2 PLANET
MONAHAN LINKED TO RACKETEERING
The Bugle
POLICE ACTION URGED
MORNING HERALD
RACKETEERS MUST GO!
MONAHAN MOB A MENACE
SWEET MONAHAN

AT MONAHAN'S HEADQUARTERS....
WHAT ABOUT THESE ARTICLES? IF CLARK KENT ISN'T STOPPED, WE'LL WIND UP IN PRISON!
AND WHAT ABOUT THAT LOIS LANE GAL, TOO?
DON'T WORRY, LADS! KENT AND LANE ARE GOING PLACES--BUT FEET FIRST!

IT'S TAKEN ME YEARS TO BUILD UP THIS SWEET SET-UP, AND I DON'T INTEND TO LET A COUPLE OF PIP-SQUEAK REPORTERS SMASH IT!

AS CLARK AND LOIS EMERGE FROM THE NEWSPAPER BUILDING, THEY DO NOT REALIZE THEY ARE UNDER CLOSE SCRUTINY....

LATER—AS THE DARK SEDAN STREAKS PAST THEM AT BREAKNECK SPEED....
SOMEONE'S IN A HURRY! THE IDIOT! HE'LL PROBABLY CRASH SOMEWHERE!

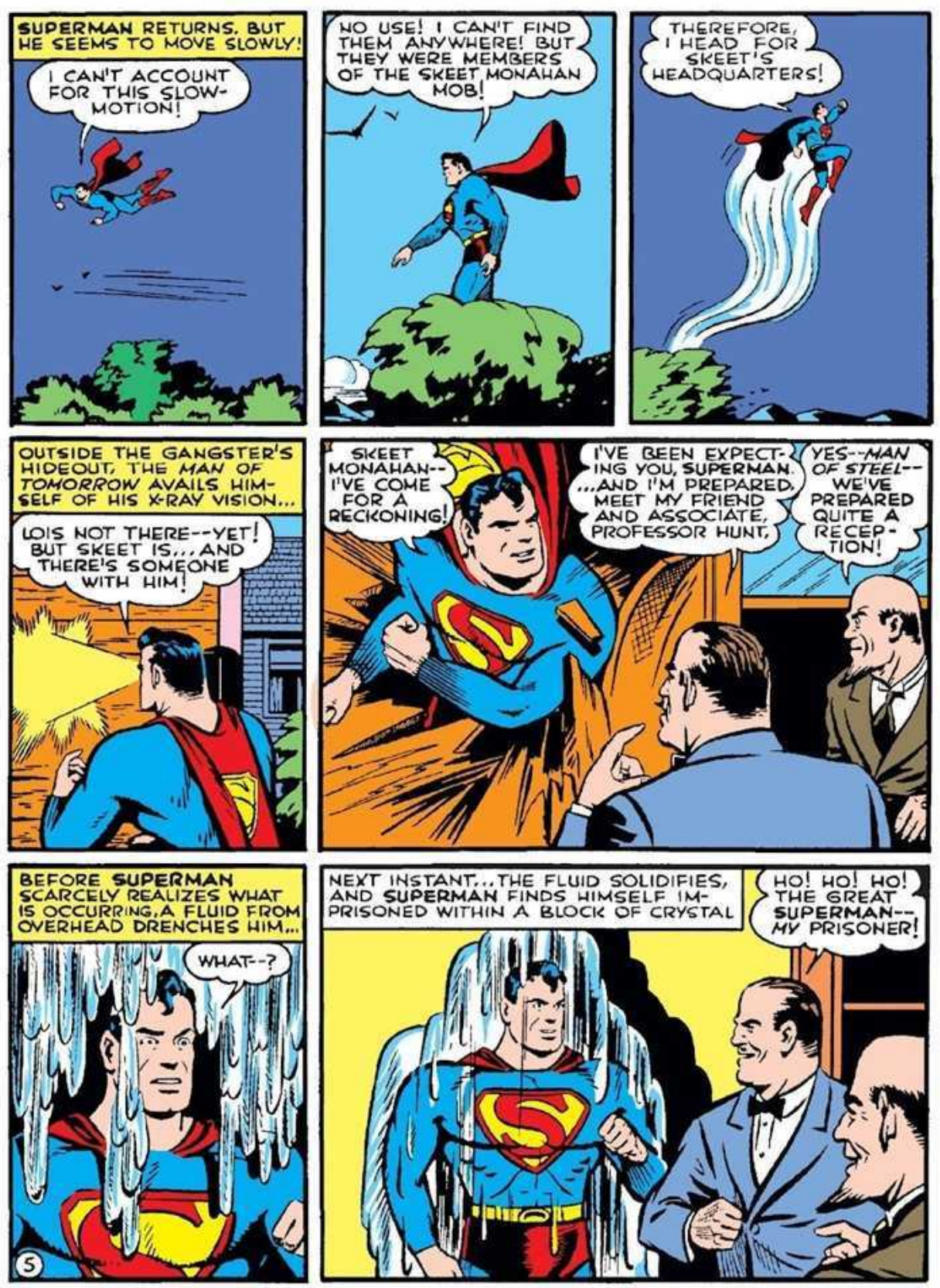
RACING AHEAD, THE SEDAN'S DRIVER SIGNALS SOME MEN NEAR THE SIDE OF A MOUNTAIN-ROAD....
THE REPORTERS ARE COMING!
2

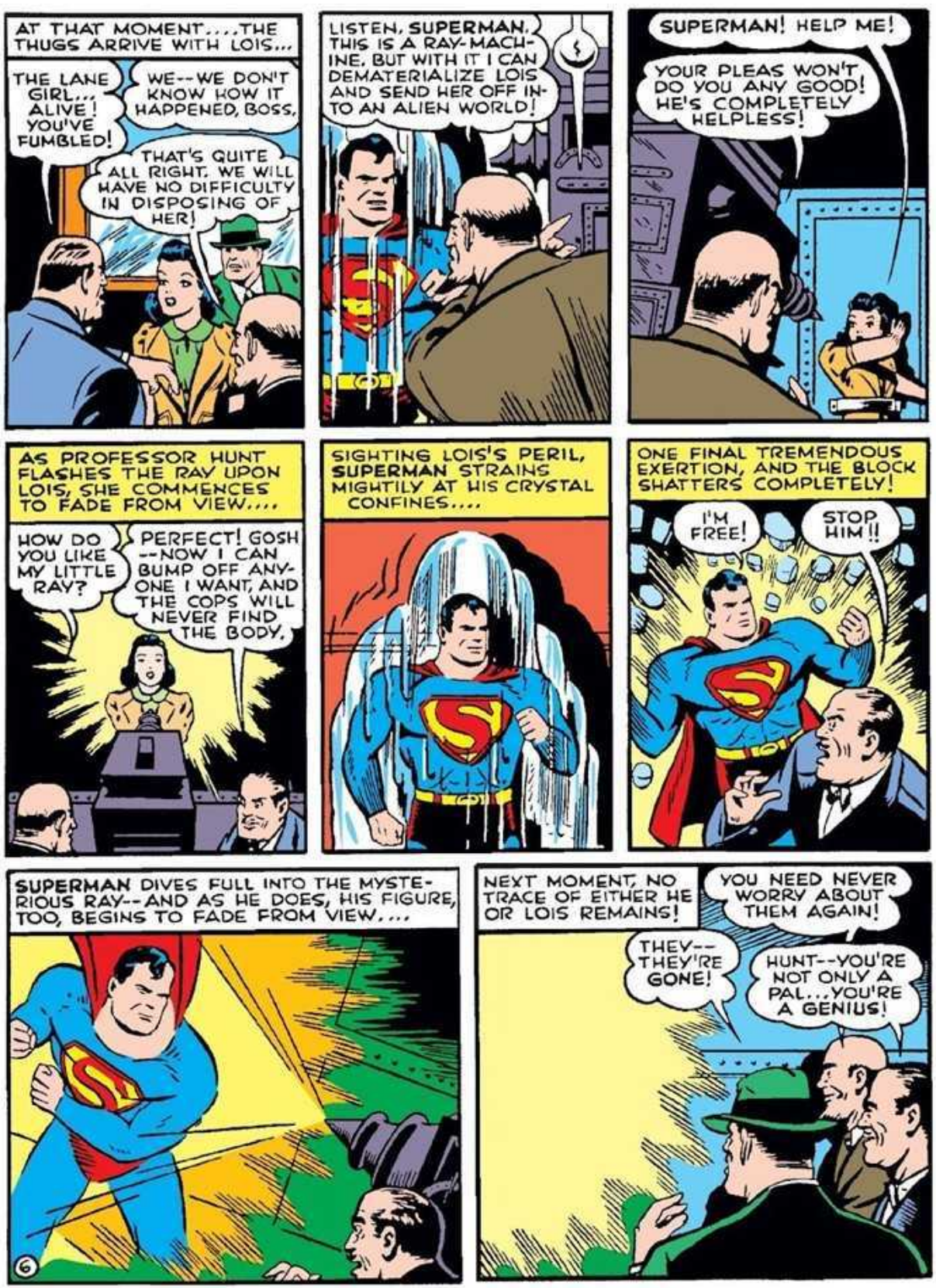
LOIS AND CLARK DRIVE ALONG THE MOUNTAIN ROAD UNAWARE OF THE FATE THAT AWAITS THEM...
QUIET AND PEACEFUL HERE, ISN'T IT?
I JUST LOVE IT!

NOW!
HERE GOES!

CLARK'S AUTO IS BURIED BENEATH THE MASSIVE BOULDERS...!
WELL...I GUESS THE CHIEF WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT *THEM* ANY LONGER!
BENEATH THE MASS OF ROCK, CLARK'S BODY PROTECTS LOIS FROM THE CRUSHING WEIGHT OF THE BOULDERS..
GOT TO GET LOIS OUT OF HERE!
THE BOULDERS RAIN UPWARD IN A MIGHTY UPHEAVAL....
OH-OH! SHE'S REVIVING!
CLARK! WHAT--!
YOU'RE AWAKE! YOU SAW--??
I SAW—*EVERYTHING*! THAT SUPER-STRENGTH --THAT MEANS YOU'RE--
CLARK TRANSFORMS HIMSELF TO **SUPERMAN** BEFORE LOIS' AMAZED EYES...
NO SENSE IN CARRYING THIS DECEPTION ANY FURTHER.
YOU'RE— **SUPERMAN!!**
3

I SEE IT ALL NOW--YOU, CLARK KENT, SUPERMAN ALL ALONG! LAUGHING AT ME BEHIND MY BACK...OH, HOW YOU MUST HAVE LAUGHED..!
BUT, LOIS, I HAD MY REASONS FOR...
I'M NOT INTERESTED IN YOU OR YOUR REASONS, GOODBYE!
IF YOU'D ONLY LET ME EXPLAIN!
HEY, LOOK! HERE COMES THAT REPORTER DAME--ALIVE...
BUT--I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! SHE SHOULD BE DEAD--ALONG WITH CLARK KENT!
AS LOIS WALKS BY THEIR PLACE OF HIDING, THE TWO THUGS LEAP OUT....
GOT YA!
SKEET WILL KNOW HOW TO GET RID OF YOU PERMANENTLY!
LET GO OF...
THUGS--SEIZING LOIS...!
LET GO OF THAT GIRL!
SUPERMAN!
GET THE GIRL INTO THE CAR--AND LET'S CLEAR OUT!
TO HIS AMAZEMENT, SUPERMAN DISCOVERS HE HAS NOT COMPLETE CONTROL OF HIS MOVEMENTS, HE ZOOMS SEVERAL MILES PAST HIS MARK....
WHAT--? THAT EXPLOSION MUST HAVE DONE UNFORESEEN THINGS TO ME!
4

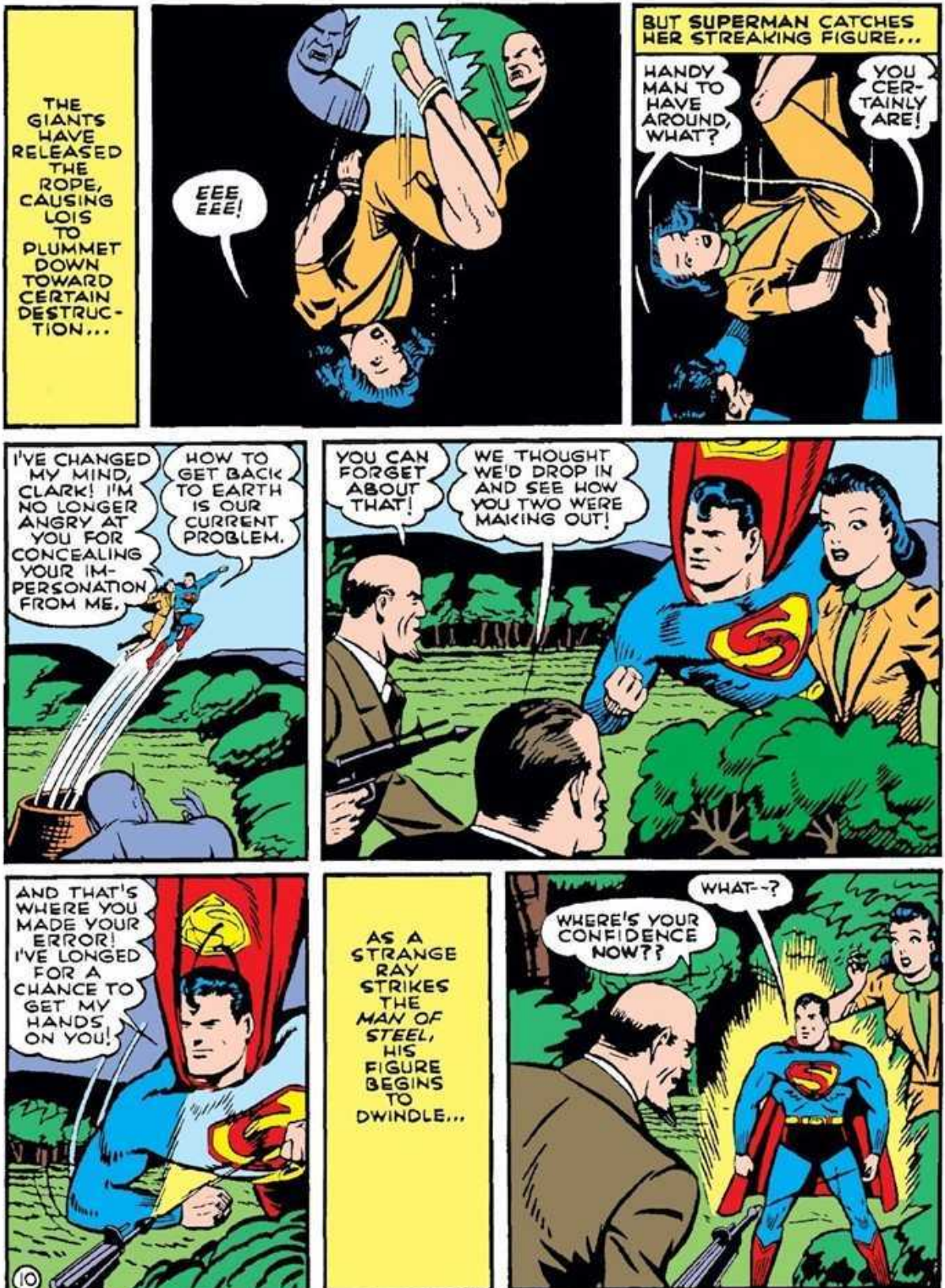

SUPERMAN RETURNS, BUT HE SEEMS TO MOVE SLOWLY!
I CAN'T ACCOUNT FOR THIS SLOW-MOTION!
NO USE! I CAN'T FIND THEM ANYWHERE! BUT THEY WERE MEMBERS OF THE SKEET MONAHAN MOB!
THEREFORE, I HEAD FOR SKEET'S HEADQUARTERS!
OUTSIDE THE GANGSTER'S HIDEOUT, THE MAN OF TOMORROW AVAILS HIMSELF OF HIS X-RAY VISION...
LOIS NOT THERE--YET! BUT SKEET IS...AND THERE'S SOMEONE WITH HIM!
SKEET MONAHAN--I'VE COME FOR A RECKONING!
I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU, SUPERMAN...AND I'M PREPARED. MEET MY FRIEND AND ASSOCIATE, PROFESSOR HUNT.
YES--MAN OF STEEL--WE'VE PREPARED QUITE A RECEPTION!
BEFORE SUPERMAN SCARCELY REALIZES WHAT IS OCCURRING, A FLUID FROM OVERHEAD DRENCHES HIM...
WHAT--?
NEXT INSTANT...THE FLUID SOLIDIFIES, AND SUPERMAN FINDS HIMSELF IMPRISONED WITHIN A BLOCK OF CRYSTAL
HO! HO! HO! THE GREAT SUPERMAN--MY PRISONER!
5


AT THAT MOMENT....THE THUGS ARRIVE WITH LOIS...
THE LANE GIRL... ALIVE! YOU'VE FUMBLED!
WE--WE DON'T KNOW HOW IT HAPPENED, BOSS.
THAT'S QUITE ALL RIGHT. WE WILL HAVE NO DIFFICULTY IN DISPOSING OF HER!
LISTEN, SUPERMAN. THIS IS A RAY-MACHINE. BUT WITH IT I CAN DEMATERIALIZE LOIS AND SEND HER OFF INTO AN ALIEN WORLD!
SUPERMAN! HELP ME!
YOUR PLEAS WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD! HE'S COMPLETELY HELPLESS!
AS PROFESSOR HUNT FLASHES THE RAY UPON LOIS, SHE COMMENCES TO FADE FROM VIEW....
HOW DO YOU LIKE MY LITTLE RAY?
PERFECT! GOSH --NOW I CAN BUMP OFF ANYONE I WANT, AND THE COPS WILL NEVER FIND THE BODY.
SIGHTING LOIS'S PERIL, SUPERMAN STRAINS MIGHTILY AT HIS CRYSTAL CONFINES....
ONE FINAL TREMENDOUS EXERTION, AND THE BLOCK SHATTERS COMPLETELY!
I'M FREE!
STOP HIM!!
SUPERMAN DIVES FULL INTO THE MYSTERIOUS RAY--AND AS HE DOES, HIS FIGURE, TOO, BEGINS TO FADE FROM VIEW....
6
NEXT MOMENT, NO TRACE OF EITHER HE OR LOIS REMAINS!
YOU NEED NEVER WORRY ABOUT THEM AGAIN!
THEY--THEY'RE GONE!
HUNT--YOU'RE NOT ONLY A PAL...YOU'RE A GENIUS!

THRU UTTER DARKNESS SPEEDS LOIS WITH SUPERMAN IN SWIFT PURSUIT....
HELP! HELP!
BE RIGHT WITH YOU!
YOU RISKED DEATH--TO AID ME, PLEASE FORGIVE THE WAY I TREATED YOU.
LOOK AHEAD-- A PLANET!
SUPERMAN AND LOIS FIND THEMSELVES UPON A STRANGE WORLD....
IT SEEMS TO BE ONE IMMENSE JUNGLE!
PROFESSOR HUNT MUST'VE TRANSPORTED US TO ANOTHER DIMENSION!
SUDDENLY... A GREAT MONSTER EMERGES AND STREAKS BEFORE THEM WITH A DEAFENING ROAR...
EEE-EEEE!
KEEP BACK!
MONSTER AND SUPERMAN LOCK IN DEADLY BATTLE!
DOWN TO THE EARTH GOES THE MAN OF STEEL UNDER THE TERRIBLE MONSTER'S TREMENDOUS WEIGHT....
YOU CALL THAT FAIR?
7
BUT KICKING SHARPLY UP, SUPERMAN SENDS HIS OPPONENT FLYING....
SC-RAM!
DURING THE BATTLE, A GREAT HAND HAD EMERGED FROM BEHIND LOIS AND--

LOIS-- LOIS IS GONE...!
MAKING USE OF HIS TELESCOPIC-VISION....
NO TELLING WHAT DANGER SHE MIGHT BE IN!
THE MAN OF STEEL SIGHTS...
SHE'S ABOUT TO BE SACRIFICED IN A PAGAN CEREMONY!
RACING TO THE SCENE OF THE INTENDED SACRIFICE IN MOMENTS, SUPERMAN'S DYNAMIC VOICE ROARS OUT IN DEAFENING VOLUME....
FREE THE GIRL!!
BUT INSTEAD OF COMPLYING WITH HIS COMMAND, THE GIANTS RELEASE A STRANGE MONSTER UPON SUPERMAN...
MUST BE THE CYCLOPS' FIRST COUSIN!
AS THE MIGHTY MONSTER'S EYE BEAMS DOWN HYPNOTICALLY UPON HIM, SUPERMAN FEELS HIS STRENGTH RAPIDLY EBBING..
THAT CREATURE-- HYPNOTIZING ME! I...I CAN'T RESIST!
8

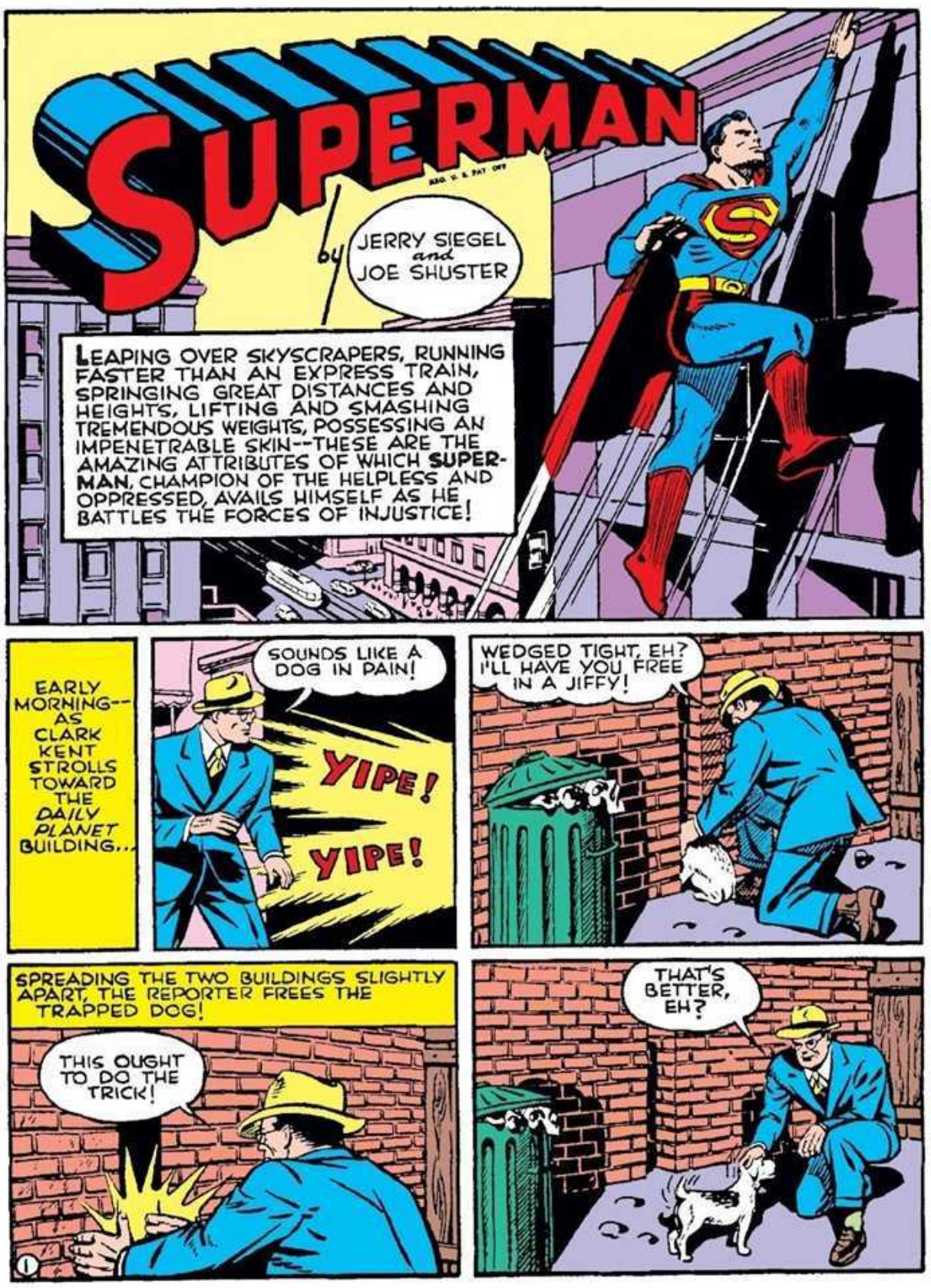
FIGHT HIM, CLARK! DON'T LET HIM DO THAT TO YOU!
LOIS' CRY SEEMS TO CLEAR SUPERMAN'S MIND, AS THE CREATURE'S TERRIBLE TENTACLES REACH FOR HIM, HE SEIZES ONE OF THEM...
PUT 'ER THERE!
UP HE SWINGS THE THING --THEN 'ROUND AND 'ROUND...
I REALLY SHOULD BE CHARGING ADMISSION!
WHEN HE LOSES HIS HOLD, SO TREMENDOUS HAS BEEN THE FORCE OF HIS TOSS THAT THE MONSTROSITY FLIES INTO OUTER SPACE...
STILL THE MATTER OF SAVING LOIS TO BE ATTENDED TO!
DOWN INTO THE PIT OF FLAMES DIVES THE DARING MAN OF TOMORROW...
AND THIS SEEMS TO BE A GOOD WAY TO BEGIN!
TERRIFIC BLASTS FROM SUPERMAN'S LUNGS COMBAT THE FLAMES...
UNTIL THEY ARE EXTINGUISHED!
AND THAT'S THAT! -- OR IS IT??!
9


THE GIANTS HAVE RELEASED THE ROPE, CAUSING LOIS TO PLUMMET DOWN TOWARD CERTAIN DESTRUC-TION...
EEE EEE!
BUT SUPERMAN CATCHES HER STREAKING FIGURE...
HANDY MAN TO HAVE AROUND, WHAT?
YOU CER-TAINLY ARE!
I'VE CHANGED MY MIND, CLARK! I'M NO LONGER ANGRY AT YOU FOR CONCEALING YOUR IM-PERSONATION FROM ME.
HOW TO GET BACK TO EARTH IS OUR CURRENT PROBLEM.
YOU CAN FORGET ABOUT THAT!
WE THOUGHT WE'D DROP IN AND SEE HOW YOU TWO WERE MAKING OUT!
AND THAT'S WHERE YOU MADE YOUR ERROR! I'VE LONGED FOR A CHANCE TO GET MY HANDS ON YOU!
AS A STRANGE RAY STRIKES THE MAN OF STEEL, HIS FIGURE BEGINS TO DWINDLE...
WHERE'S YOUR CONFIDENCE NOW??
WHAT--?
10

BEFORE THE POWER OF THE MYSTERIOUS RAY, SUPERMAN DWINDLES SMALLER AND SMALLER....
AWARE THAT HE HAS BUT MOMENTS TO ACT, SUPERMAN STREAKS TOWARD THE CRIMINAL SCIENTIST....
A COUPLE MORE SECONDS AND I'LL BE MICROSCOPIC!
UP THE SIDE OF THE MOUNTAINOUS FIGURE HE SCRAMBLES....
UP... UP!
AND THAT ATTENDS TO YOU!
THE FIENDISH RAY-MECHANISM DESTROYED, SUPERMAN RETURNS TO HIS NORMAL SIZE....
RUSH HIM! GET HIM!
OUR CHANCE TO LEAVE!
FUN, EH?
11

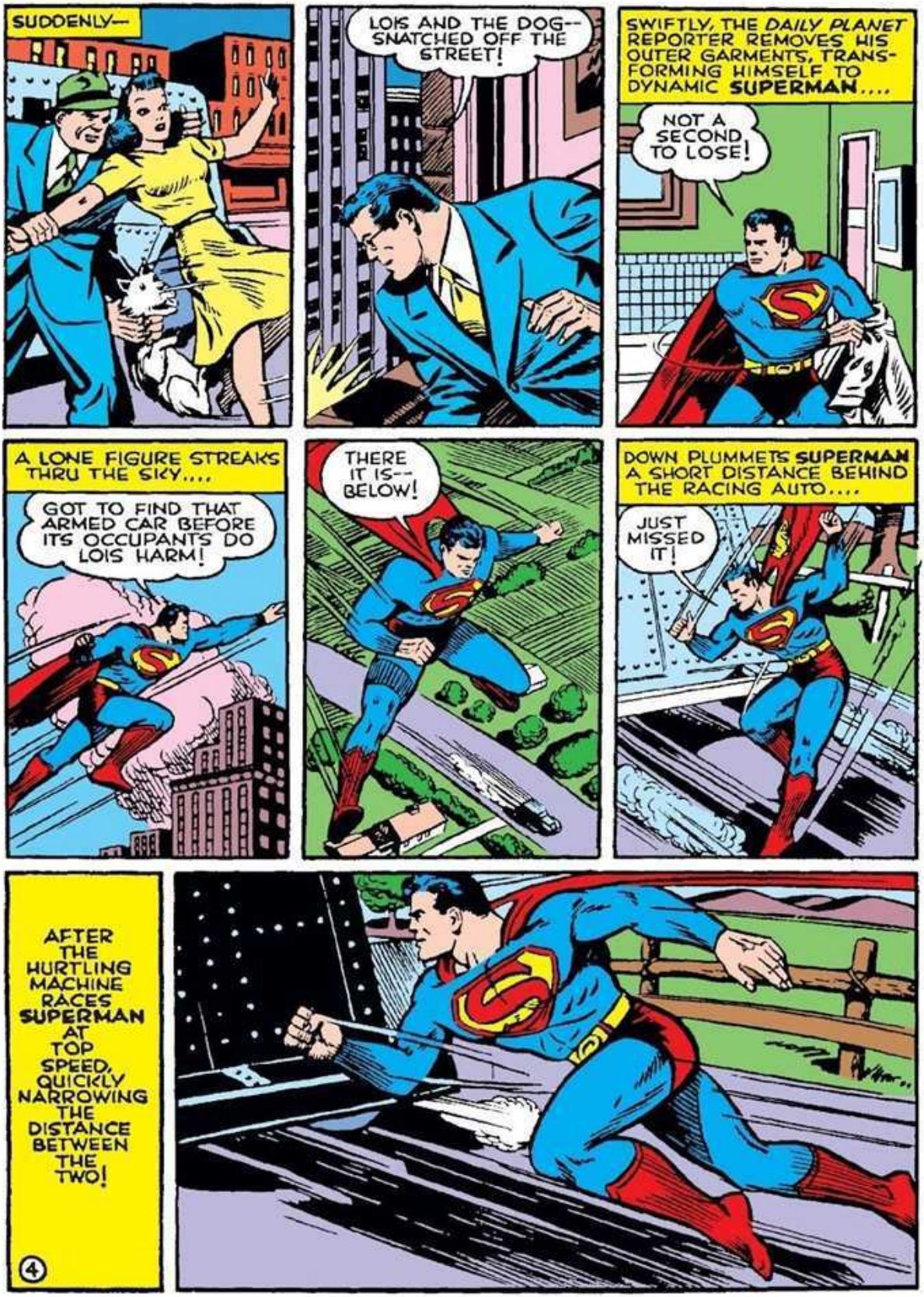
ENOUGH --WE'VE HAD ENOUGH!
THAT'S MORE LIKE IT! NOW YOU'D BETTER ARRANGE TO GET ME TO MY WORLD!
I'M BEGINNING TO VANISH-- OUGHT TO BE JOINING LOIS SOON!
AS SUPERMAN MATERIALIZES BACK IN THE LABORATORY....
RELEASE HER!
TOO LATE! I'VE ALREADY TURNED HER TO STONE!
YOU FIENDS! I'LL--!
LOIS-- SMASHED TO BITS...! WHAT HAVE I DONE??
CLARK REVIVES BENEATH THE CRUSHED ROCK TO DISCOVER....
I'VE BEEN DREAMING! THAT OTHER PLANET... THE EVIL SCIENTIST... LOIS TURNED TO STONE... ALL A DREAM!
SKEET JOINS HIS MEN....
NICE WORK, BOYS!
THANK HEAVEN SHE'S OKAY-- THO UNCONSCIOUS!

SWIFTLY, CLARK CHANGES TO HIS SUPERMAN GARMENTS....
HERE'S WHERE I PAY MONAHAN MY COMPLIMENTS!
YOU'VE BEEN A BAD BOY, SKEETS! PREPARE TO GET SPANKED!
SUPERMAN! LET'S BEAT IT!
HE OUGHT TO KNOW IT WON'T TAKE LONG FOR ME TO OVERTAKE HIM!
WE'RE HEADED RIGHT BACK!
HERE YOU ARE, LOIS!
BUT WHERE'S CLARK!
I'VE ALREADY TAKEN HIM TO SAFETY. I SUGGEST YOU TURN THESE MEN OVER TO THE POLICE!
DON'T BE TOO SWELL-HEADED ABOUT YOUR STORY. IF SUPERMAN HADN'T SAVED YOUR LIFE, YOU WOULDN'T BE HERE!
BUT I AM HERE! ("-WHEW! THAT DREAM CERTAINLY SEEMED REAL!-")
THE END
13

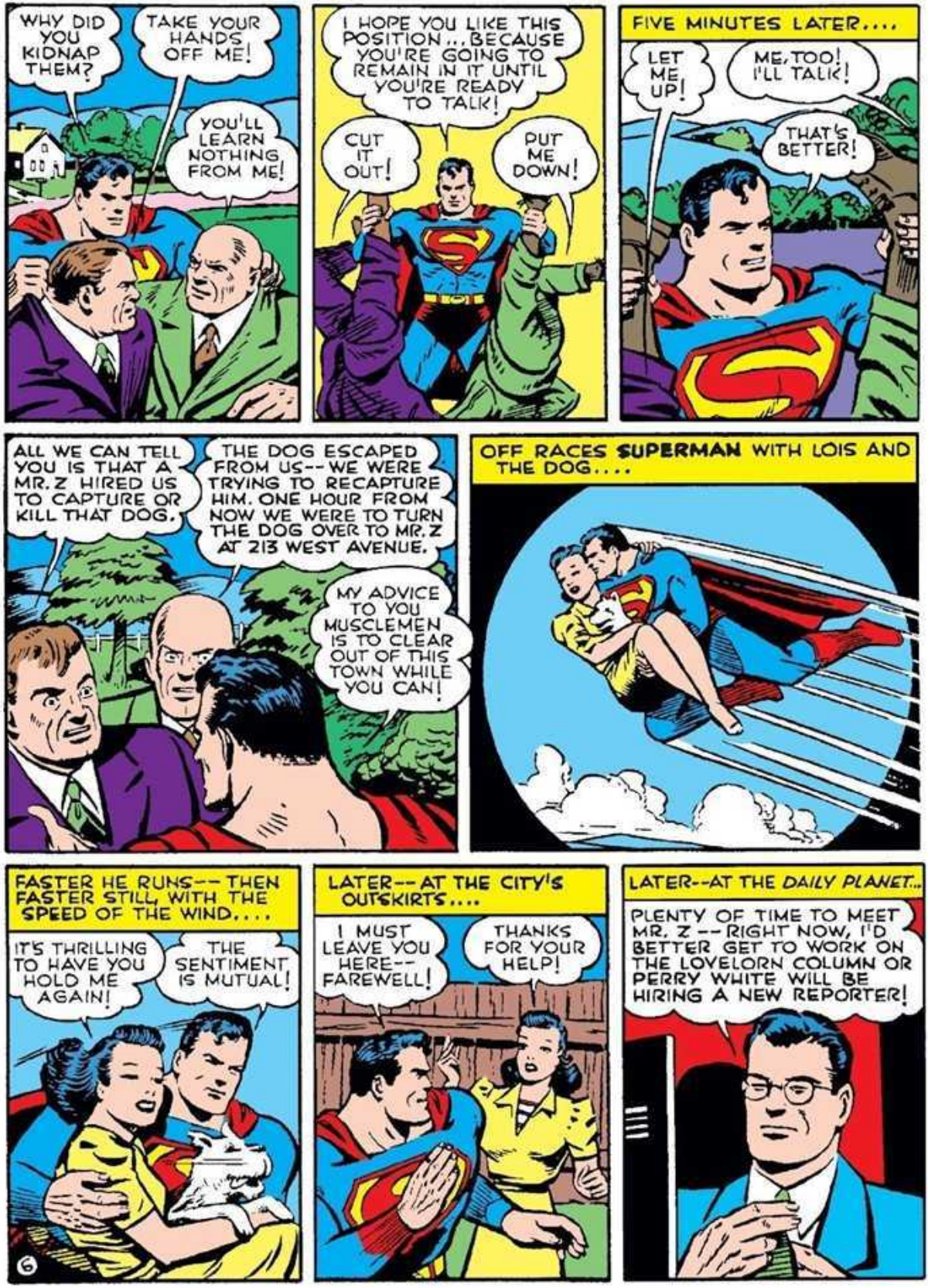

SUPERMAN
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
LEAPING OVER SKYSCRAPERS, RUNNING FASTER THAN AN EXPRESS TRAIN, SPRINGING GREAT DISTANCES AND HEIGHTS, LIFTING AND SMASHING TREMENDOUS WEIGHTS, POSSESSING AN IMPENETRABLE SKIN--THESE ARE THE AMAZING ATTRIBUTES OF WHICH SUPERMAN, CHAMPION OF THE HELPLESS AND OPPRESSED, AVAILS HIMSELF AS HE BATTLES THE FORCES OF INJUSTICE!
EARLY MORNING--AS CLARK KENT STROLLS TOWARD THE DAILY PLANET BUILDING...
SOUNDS LIKE A DOG IN PAIN!
YIPE!
YIPE!
WEDGED TIGHT, EH? I'LL HAVE YOU FREE IN A JIFFY!
SPREADING THE TWO BUILDINGS SLIGHTLY APART, THE REPORTER FREES THE TRAPPED DOG!
THIS OUGHT TO DO THE TRICK!
THAT'S BETTER, EH?
1

SO LONG! IN THE FUTURE, AVOID TIGHT SPOTS!
?
OVERJOYED AT HAVING FOUND A NEW FRIEND, THE DOG PLAYFULLY TRAILS CLARK....
WOOF! WOOF!
BEAT IT, POOCH! IT'S BEEN NICE MEETING YOU—BUT IT'S TIME FOR US TO PART.
BUT NOTHING CLARK SAYS OR DOES DISSUADES THE DOG FROM FOLLOWING HIM...
I GIVE UP! IT MUST BE A CASE OF LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT!
SUDDENLY--AN ARMORED CAR SWEEPS AROUND THE STREET CORNER AT TOP SPEED....
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
AS THO IN ANSWER, A SERIES OF SHOTS EMERGES FROM THE ROCKETING AUTO, DIRECTED TOWARD THE HELPLESS DOG
WHAT--?
LEAPING SWIFTLY BEFORE THE COWERING DOG, CLARK RECEIVES THE BULLETS MEANT FOR IT...AND REMAINS UNHARMED BECAUSE OF HIS SUPER-TOUGH SKIN...!
2

WONDER WHAT THEY COULD HAVE AGAINST A POOR, HARMLESS PUP?
LATER... CLARK ENTERS THE PLANET BUILDING, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS CANINE FRIEND....
I WONDER WHY THEY PUT UP SIGNS LIKE THAT? DOGS CAN'T READ!
NO DOGS ALLOWED
FROM ACROSS THE STREET, UNFRIENDLY EYES OBSERVE THE TWO ENTER THE PLANET...
WHERE DID YOU GET HIM, CLARK?
HE JUST FOLLOWED ME TO WORK.
HE LOOKS SMART!
CAN HE DO TRICKS?
IT'S SO CUTE-- I COULD SMOTHER IT WITH KISSES.
WHY DON'T YOU EVER SAY THINGS LIKE THAT TO ME?
THE BOSS WANTS TO SEE YOU, KENT, AND IS HE BURNING!
WHERE IN BLAZES HAVE YOU BEEN?
I--I'M AFRAID I WAS DELAYED.
IN THAT CASE, LOIS GETS THE ASSIGNMENT--AND AS FOR YOU, CLARK-- YOU CAN HANDLE THE LOVELORN COLUMN!
SOUNDS LIKE A BRILLIANT THOUGHT.
BUT, CHIEF--!
I TOOK CLARK'S JOB FOR THE DAY-- SO I MIGHT JUST AS WELL ALSO ANNEX HIS DOG!
3


SUDDENLY—
LOIS AND THE DOG—SNATCHED OFF THE STREET!
SWIFTLY, THE DAILY PLANET REPORTER REMOVES HIS OUTER GARMENTS, TRANSFORMING HIMSELF TO DYNAMIC SUPERMAN....
NOT A SECOND TO LOSE!
A LONE FIGURE STREAKS THRU THE SKY....
GOT TO FIND THAT ARMED CAR BEFORE ITS OCCUPANTS DO LOIS HARM!
THERE IT IS—BELOW!
DOWN PLUMMETS SUPERMAN A SHORT DISTANCE BEHIND THE RACING AUTO....
JUST MISSED IT!
AFTER THE HURTLING MACHINE RACES SUPERMAN AT TOP SPEED, QUICKLY NARROWING THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THE TWO!
4

A GUY--FROM OUT OF THE SKY--RACING AFTER US--CATCHING UP!
FASTER! FASTER!
SHOW US SOME REAL SPEED!
REACHING OUT, SUPERMAN SEIZES THE REAR BUMPER...
THIS IS AS FAR AS YOU GO!
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
IT'S THAT DEMON--HE'S GOT US!
SUPERMAN TEARS OPEN THE METAL ARMORED CAR AS CASUALLY AS A HOUSEWIFE WOULD OPEN A CAN OF SARDINES....
OPEN UP!
SUPERMAN!
LUCKY FOR THEM THAT YOU'RE UNHARMED!
D-DON'T TOUCH ME!
HE WON'T DIE
LOOK--THE BULLETS--BOUNCING RIGHT OFF HIM!
5
THE MAN OF TOMORROW DRAGS LOIS'S CAPTORS FROM THE CAR....
LEMME GO!
WHAT'RE YA GONNA DO WITH US?
YOU'LL SEE!


WHY DID YOU KIDNAP THEM?
TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME!
YOU'LL LEARN NOTHING FROM ME!
I HOPE YOU LIKE THIS POSITION.. BECAUSE YOU'RE GOING TO REMAIN IN IT UNTIL YOU'RE READY TO TALK!
CUT IT OUT!
PUT ME DOWN!
FIVE MINUTES LATER....
LET ME UP!
ME, TOO! I'LL TALK!
THAT'S BETTER!
ALL WE CAN TELL YOU IS THAT A MR. Z HIRED US TO CAPTURE OR KILL THAT DOG.
THE DOG ESCAPED FROM US--WE WERE TRYING TO RECAPTURE HIM. ONE HOUR FROM NOW WE WERE TO TURN THE DOG OVER TO MR. Z AT 213 WEST AVENUE.
MY ADVICE TO YOU MUSCLEMEN IS TO CLEAR OUT OF THIS TOWN WHILE YOU CAN!
OFF RACES SUPERMAN WITH LOIS AND THE DOG....
FASTER HE RUNS--THEN FASTER STILL WITH THE SPEED OF THE WIND....
IT'S THRILLING TO HAVE YOU HOLD ME AGAIN!
THE SENTIMENT IS MUTUAL!
LATER--AT THE CITY'S OUTSKIRTS....
I MUST LEAVE YOU HERE--FAREWELL!
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!
LATER--AT THE DAILY PLANET...
PLENTY OF TIME TO MEET MR. Z--RIGHT NOW, I'D BETTER GET TO WORK ON THE LOVELORN COLUMN OR PERRY WHITE WILL BE HIRING A NEW REPORTER!
6

CLARK RECEIVES KIDDING APLENTY FROM THE OTHER STAFF MEMBERS....
I SUPPOSE FROM NOW ON WE'D BETTER REFER TO YOU AS, MISS KENT!
DEAR MISS KENT: TWO MEN ARE IN LOVE WITH ME AND NEITHER OF THEM IS AWARE OF IT. WHAT SHALL I DO?
BEAT IT--AND LET ME GET SOME WORK DONE!
HERE COMES LOIS. NO DOUBT SHE WON'T PASS UP THE OPPORTUNITY TO RUB IT IN!
WELL...WELL. HOW DOES IT FEEL TO OFFER MOTHERLY ADVICE TO THOUSANDS OF PLANET READERS?
AND WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING THAT'S SO IMPORTANT?
I'VE BEEN ON THE TRAIL OF SOMETHING REALLY IMPORTANT, AND I HAD NO ONE ELSE THAN SUPERMAN TO HELP ME!
I'LL BELIEVE THAT WHEN I SEE SWORN AFFIDAVITS!
YOU MAKE ME SICK! WRITING THE LOVELORN COLUMN IS JUST THE THING FOR YOU!
BUT, LOIS! I DIDN'T MEAN TO...
NO DOUBT SUPERMAN WILL APPEAR AT THAT WEST AVENUE ADDRESS. I DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!
IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR MY APPOINTMENT WITH MR. Z. -- I'D BETTER HURRY!
7

213 WEST AVENUE... AND THE PLACE LOOKS CREEPY!
HESITATINGLY, LOIS ENTERS THRU AN OPEN DOOR....
IT LOOKS DESERTED!
MR. Z!
WHO ARE YOU? WHY DID YOU COME --AND WHAT DO YOU KNOW OF ME?
LET ME OUT OF HERE! I CAME IN BY ACCIDENT. I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING!!
YOU'RE LYING! AND BY HEAVEN, I'LL GET THE TRUTH OUT OF YOU!
MEANWHILE--
TIME TO GO INTO ACTION!
ABOVE THE CITY STREAKS SUPERMAN AT TERRIFIC SPEED...
WHY ANYONE SHOULD WANT TO HURT A HARMLESS PUP IS SOMETHING I CAN'T UNDERSTAND. I LOOK FORWARD TO A HEART-TO-HEART "CHAT" WITH MR. Z!
8

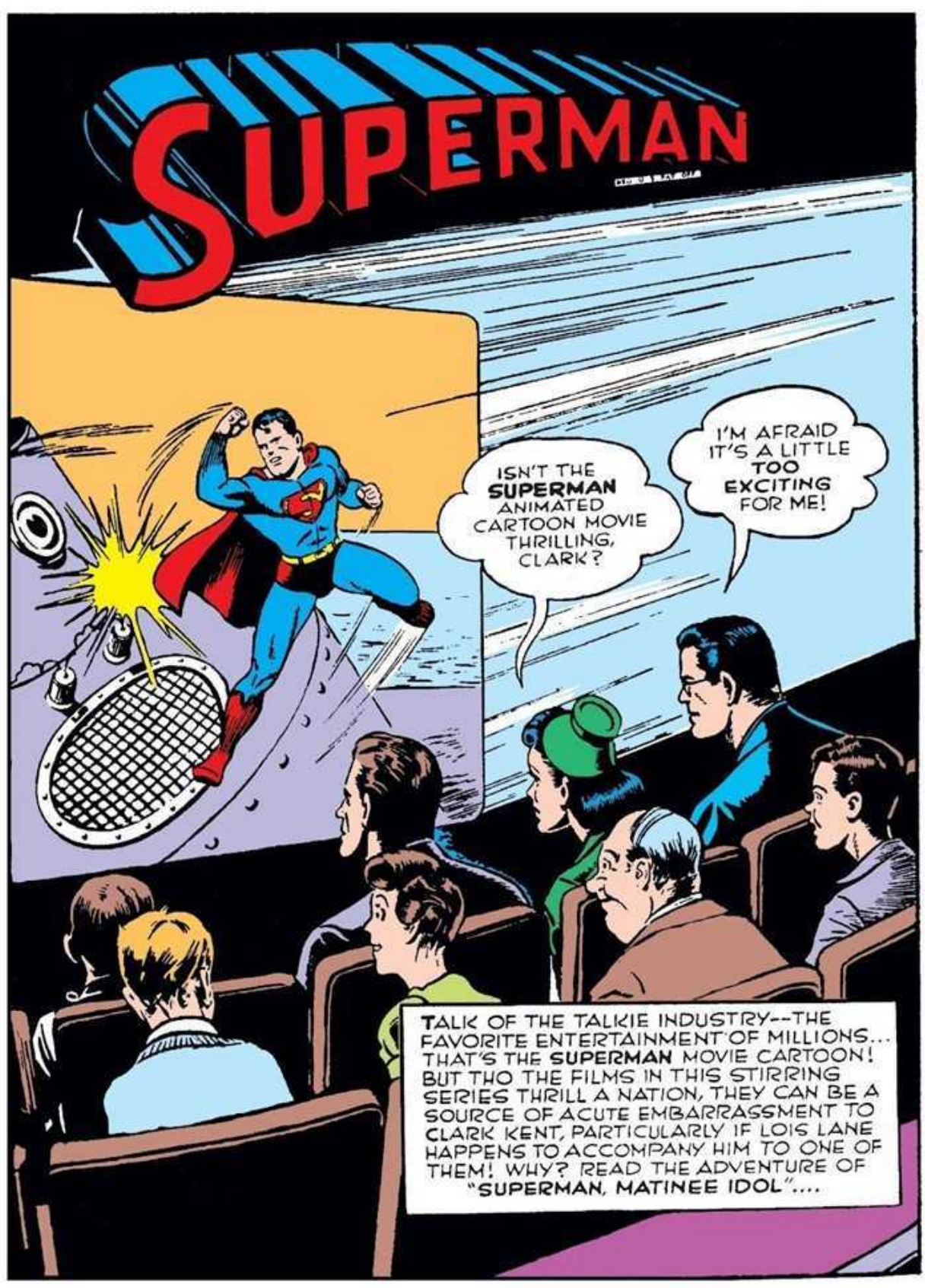
SHORTLY AFTER, SUPERMAN ALIGHTS UPON THE ROOF OF THE BUILDING AT 213 WEST AVENUE....
HOPE I HAVEN'T KEPT HIM WAITING!
BUT IF I HAVE, I'LL SOON MAKE IT UP TO HIM!
A WOMAN'S SCREAM!
LET GO OF HER!
SUPERMAN!
HUH --?
YOU LIKE TO FIGHT, EH? WELL--
KEEP AWAY!
--TRY FIGHTING WITH A MAN!
OOOOO-OOF!
9

I'LL FIX YOU FOR THAT!
THE BULLETS --THEY'RE BOUNCING RIGHT OFF YOU!
SURPRISED?
BUT THEY WON'T RICOCHET OFF HER!
LOWER THAT GUN!
SWIFTER THAN LIGHT ITSELF, THE MAN OF STEEL SNATCHES THE WEAPON AWAY...!
GIVE ME THAT!
WHAT --?!?
I'VE HALF A NOTION TO END YOUR WORTHLESS LIFE RIGHT NOW!
DON'T HURT ME!
ON ONE CONDITION! I WANT A COMPLETE EXPLANATION OF YOUR ACTIVITIES!
THAT'S SOMETHING YOU'LL NEVER LEARN!
THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN!
10

OUT INTO THE EMPTY AIR SPRINGS SUPERMAN WITH HIS SHRIEKING BURDEN, THEN HURTLES DOWN--DOWN TOWARD THE DISTANT STREET FAR BELOW...
EEE-EEEE!
READY TO RECONSIDER?
THE MAN OF STEEL'S TREMENDOUSLY POWERFUL MUSCLES CUSHION THE SHOCK OF THE FALL....
YOU'RE NOT HUMAN!
I'VE SCARCELY BEGUN! ARE YOU READY TO TALK, OR MUST WE CONTINUE?
I'LL NEVER TALK!
YOU'VE SAID THAT BEFORE--AND HERE'S WHERE I PROVE YOU LIE!
WITH HIS BARE HAND, SUPERMAN UNSCREWS THE TOP OF A WATER-PLUG....
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
YOU'LL SEE!
THIRSTY? --HELP YOURSELF!
UB-- GLUB!!
HAD ENOUGH?
YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS!
OKAY— HAVE IT YOUR OWN WAY!
11

MEANWHILE...ON A NEARBY BEACH, A RACING CAR OF RADICAL DESIGN IS ABOUT TO ATTEMPT TO BREAK THE WORLD'S SPEED RECORD....
GOOD LUCK, SIR!
I'M SUPREMELY CONFIDENT I'LL BREAK THE RECORD! TWELVE MONTHS OF WORK HAS GONE INTO THIS RACE CAR!
OFF SETS THE SPEEDSTER ON ITS RECORD-BREAKING DASH...!
SO THE "WATER-TREATMENT" DIDN'T WORK! PERHAPS ANOTHER WILL!
I WON'T YIELD!
DOWN BESIDE THE HURTLING RACE-CAR PLUMMETS A COSTUMED FIGURE AND ITS SCREECHING BURDEN!
A RACE! LET'S JOIN IN!
RACING WITH THE SPEED OF LIGHT ITSELF, THE MAN OF STEEL OVERTAKES AND PASSES THE STREAMLINED RACER....
TWELVE MONTHS I LABORED OVER THIS INFERNAL MECHANISM --AND NOW--I'M BEATEN BY A MAN ON FOOT!
SUDDENLY HALTING, THE MAN OF TOMORROW WHIRLS AND FACES THE ONRUSHING RACER....
WATCH THIS!
WE'LL BE HIT!
AT THE LAST INSTANT, HE VAULTS OVER IT....
FUN EH?
12

AND I'VE STILL HARDLY BEGUN!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH!
THEN TALK!
GLADLY! BUT JUST LEAVE ME ALONE!
I'M OSCAR LANCHESTER. MY AUNT, THE WEALTHY ABIGAIL LANCHESTER, WILLED HER ENTIRE FORTUNE TO THAT DOG, HER PET. I WAS TO GET THE INHERITANCE ONLY IF THE DOG DIED.
SO THAT'S IT! YOU KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF YOU EVER TRY TO BOTHER THAT DOG AGAIN?
I--I KNOW, BUT I ASSURE YOU--I NEVER WANT TO SET EYES ON IT--OR AUNT ABIGAIL'S INHERITANCE--AGAIN. ALL THE MONEY IN THE WORLD ISN'T WORTH FIGHTING AGAINST YOU!
SUMMONED BY SPECTATORS, A FIRE-TRUCK ARRIVES ON THE SCENE....
TWO MEN MAROONED ON THE TOP OF THAT POLE!
I DON'T KNOW HOW THEY GOT UP THERE-- BUT I'LL GET THEM DOWN!
AS A FIREMAN MOUNTS THE RAISED LADDER....
COME DOWN OFFA THERE!
YOU'RE WELCOME TO HIM!
13
SUPERMAN SPRINGS OFF. LATER--AT THE DAILY PLANET OFFICE....
THIS YARN IS A HUMDINGER! YOU CAN DROP THAT LOVELORN COLUMN ASSIGNMENT!
THANKS, CHIEF! THOSE ARE THE MOST COMFORTING WORDS I'VE EVER HEARD!
AND I WAS ON THE POINT OF WRITING THAT STORY MYSELF!
THE END


SUPERMAN
ISN'T THE SUPERMAN ANIMATED CARTOON MOVIE THRILLING, CLARK?
I'M AFRAID IT'S A LITTLE TOO EXCITING FOR ME!
TALK OF THE TALKIE INDUSTRY--THE FAVORITE ENTERTAINMENT OF MILLIONS... THAT'S THE SUPERMAN MOVIE CARTOON! BUT THO THE FILMS IN THIS STIRRING SERIES THRILL A NATION, THEY CAN BE A SOURCE OF ACUTE EMBARRASSMENT TO CLARK KENT, PARTICULARLY IF LOIS LANE HAPPENS TO ACCOMPANY HIM TO ONE OF THEM! WHY? READ THE ADVENTURE OF "SUPERMAN, MATINEE IDOL"....

LOIS, SINCE WE'VE BOTH THE AFTER-NOON OFF, HOW ABOUT TAKING IN A MOVIE TOGETHER?
SWELL! LET'S GO TO THE EMPIRE THEATRE!
BUT A SUPERMAN CARTOON IS BEING SHOWN THERE TODAY!
AND THAT'S JUST WHY I WANT TO GO! UNFORTUNATELY, I MISSED SEEING THE FIRST FEW IN THE SERIES.
THE FEATURE PICTURE WILL BE OVER IN A FEW MINUTES. I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO SEE THE CARTOON!
I HEAR THAT PARAMOUNT PICTURES DID AN OUTSTAND-ING JOB.
("-HOW DID I EVER GET INTO THIS FIX? LOIS IS LIABLE TO SEE SOMETHING THAT WILL GIVE AWAY MY TRUE IDENTITY!-")
ARE YOU POSITIVE YOU WOULDN'T PREFER A DIFFERENT SHOW?
ABSOLUTELY! DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE CARRYING YOUR SILLY JEALOUSY OF SUPERMAN TO THE POINT WHERE YOU DON'T WANT TO SEE HIM IN AN ANIMATED CARTOON!
LOOK! IT'S BEGINNING!
IN THE FIRST CARTOON RELEASE, SUPERMAN SENT A MAD SCIENTIST TO PRISON--BUT HE FIRST HAD TO BATTLE A HEAT RAY AND SMASH THE SAVANT'S LABORATORY!
PRESE
Copyright, 1942
ACTION COMICS and SUPERMAN MAGAZINES
Based on the famous comic strip created by JEROME SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
I DON'T BELIEVE I'VE EVER SEEN THOSE MAGAZINES!
("-HOW THEY KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT ME IS A PUZZLE. PERHAPS THEY'RE CLAIRVOYANT!-")
"PRISON ISLAND-- WHERE ONLY THE MOST DANGEROUS OF CRIMINALS ARE CONFINED. IT WAS HERE THAT THE MAD SCIENTIST WAS IMPRISONED AFTER HIS CLASH WITH SUPERMAN!"

YOU! HOW DID YOU GET OUT OF YOUR CELL?
THAT SHOULD BE THE LEAST OF YOUR WORRIES!
WHOO-EE-EE!!
DARING PRISON BREAK!
THE MAD SCIENTIST HAS ESCAPED!
DAILY PLANE
MAD KILLER ON LOOS
("-GOT TO THINK FAST!-")
ER--LOIS... I THINK SOMETHING CAUGHT IN MY THROAT! I NEED WATER! HELP ME!
THAT LOOKS LIKE THE DAILY PLANET BUILDING!
HURRY--I DON'T WANT TO MISS THAT FILM!
I DIDN'T REALIZE I WAS THIS THIRSTY!
WHAT LOIS MISSES OBSERVING ON THE SCREEN...
NOTHING HAS BEEN HEARD FROM THE MAD SCIENTIST FOR MONTHS. FRANKLY, I'M WORRIED.
FORGET IT, CLARK! HE'S PROBABLY HIDING IN SOME CORNER SOMEWHERE ...TERRIFIED ...AFRAID TO SHOW HIS FACE...
PLEASE HURRY. I HOPE I HAVEN'T MISSED MUCH!
ANYONE WOULD THINK YOU HAD NEVER SEEN SUPERMAN!

LOOK--THE CAMERA SEEMS TO BE MOVING THRU SOME BUSHES THAT HIDE A SECRET ENTRANCE—THEN THRU A TUNNEL.
RIGHT INTO THE HEART OF THE MOUNTAIN!
THE TIME FOR VENGEANCE HAS COME!
ARISE!
NOW-- GO! AND DESTROY!
I CAN HARDLY SEE A THING!

CALLING AIRPORT! HELP! HELP! METAL MONSTER--!
NO FURTHER WORD FROM THE PILOT!
GET ME THE DAILY PLANET!
("-THIS CALLS FOR MORE FAST THINKING!-")
LOIS, YOU DROPPED YOUR POCKETBOOK!
CLUMSY! YOU MEAN, YOU KNOCKED IT OFF!
I CAN'T FIND IT! IT'S DARK HERE!
KEEP LOOKING!
("-I DON'T WANT HER TO SEE WHAT'S ON THE SCREEN RIGHT NOW!-")
A TIP-OFF FROM THE AIRPORT THAT A METAL CREATURE IS RUNNING AMUCK! LOIS--THIS ASSIGNMENT IS TOO DANGEROUS FOR YOU!
I'LL COVER IT!
NEXT TIME I ASK YOU TO GET MY HAT, PERHAPS YOU'LL KNOW BETTER!
LET ME OUT!

IT'S LOCKED! BUT WHAT OF IT? THIS IS A CASE FOR--SUPERMAN!
I ALMOST HAD MY HAND ON IT, AND YOU KICKED IT OUT OF REACH!
MY ERROR! (--JUST ANOTHER MOMENT'S DELAY NEEDED--OTHERWISE, SHE'LL LEARN THAT CLARK KENT AND SUPERMAN ARE ONE AND THE SAME!-")
UP-- UP --AND AWAY!
I FINALLY GOT IT, BUT NO THANKS TO YOU!
I THOUGHT YOU WANTED TO WATCH THE PICTURE!
I'LL GIVE 'EM THE GREATEST WAVE OF DESTRUCTION THE WORLD HAS EVER SEEN!
SHIPPI
6

WHAT FRONT-PAGE PICTURES THESE WILL MAKE!
THAT'S IT!
SO IT IS! EVIDENTLY THE MOVIE'S WRITERS SUBSCRIBE TO THE DAILY PLANET AND ARE ACQUAINTED WITH YOUR EXPLOITS!
THAT GIRL REPORTER WHO WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN SENDING ME TO PRISON! MY CHANCE FOR REVENGE!
NO!
TIMELY?
TO THE SECOND!
YEA, SUPERMAN
SIT DOWN, LOIS! YOU'RE A GROWN WOMAN. AND BESIDES, IT'S UNSEEMLY TO CHEER FOR YOURSELF!

IT'S-- SUPERMAN!
THE END OF SUPERMAN!
WH-WHAT'S TH-THIS?!
GOT TO FIND LOIS -- AND THAT MONSTER!

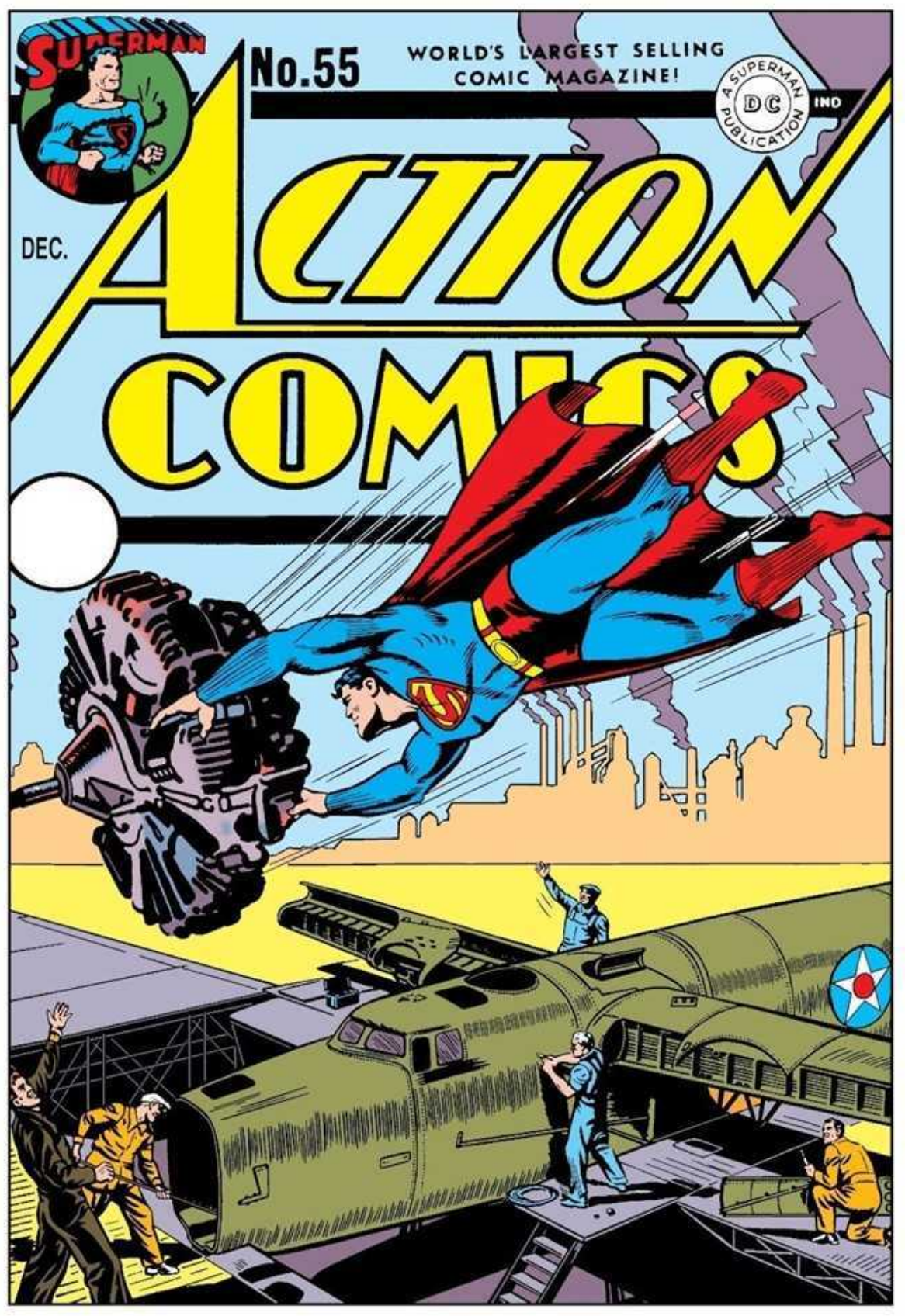
SUPERMAN!
JUST LIKE THE SEASONS--YOU CAN COUNT ON ME!
THE MAN OF STEEL!
THAT'S NO WAY TO TREAT A LADY!
I--I CAN'T LOOK!
YOU SHOULD KNOW BY THIS TIME THAT SUPERMAN ALWAYS SAVES YOU IN THE NICK OF TIME!
GOTCHA!
NOW TO ATTEND TO THIS OVERGROWN SARDINE-CAN!
NO TICKLING IN THE CLINCHES!
HE'S GOT ME IN THE PALM OF HIS HAND...

THAT HURT!
BUT I CAN TAKE IT! CAN YOU?
TCH! TCH! WHAT THE MARQUIS OF QUEENSBURY WOULDN'T THINK OF YOU!
HOLD IT!
HERE WE GO AROUND THE MULBERRY BUSH--
RELAX-- AND LET YOURSELF GO!
CONGRATULATIONS, SUPERMAN!
THIS ROBOT WAS RADIO-CONTROLLED! AND MY X-RAY VISION WILL REVEAL TO ME WHO CONTROLLED HIM!

GIMME ROOM!
THE MAD SCIENTIST! GET HIM!
I'LL GET HER FIRST!
("- SOME EXCITEMENT OUT IN THE STREET!-")
WHAT CLARK'S AMAZING X-RAY VISION REVEALS TO HIM! A FLEEING GANGSTER PURSUED BY POLICE CARS...!
OUT OF THE THEATRE RACES CLARK AT PHENOMENAL SPEED, CHANGING TO SUPERMAN AS HE RUNS...
I HATE TO RUN OUT ON THAT MOVIE. EVEN I WAS GETTING INTERESTED. BUT BUSINESS BEFORE PLEASURE!
NOT ANOTHER INCH!
WHY WASTE THOSE BULLETS ON ME WHEN THEY COULD BE PUT TO GOOD USE EXTERMINATING THE FASCISTS!?
YEE-EEE!-- SUPERMAN!
A GIFT-- FROM ME TO YOU!
THANKS, PAL!
P.D

("-HOPE LOIS HASN'T NOTED MY ABSENCE!-")
("-EVIDENTLY SHE DIDN'T! I DON'T KNOW WHETHER TO BE RELIEVED OR INSULTED!-")
SHE DIES!
DON'T!
GOT TO OVERTAKE THAT BULLET!
THEY'RE NECK AND NECK!
SIT DOWN! YOU'RE ATTRACTING ATTENTION!
HERE'S YOUR BULLET BACK!
WHAT??!!

WE'VE PLACES TO GO!
THIS IS DIVINE!
WHAT WE WOULDN'T GIVE TO HAVE THAT MAD SCIENTIST BACK AGAIN!
OUR RECORD WILL BE BLACK UNTIL HE'S BEHIND THE BARS AGAIN!
THERE HE IS! LIKE AN ANSWER TO A PRAYER!
SOMETHING TELLS ME WE'VE GOT SUPERMAN TO THANK!
WHAT A SCOOP!
SORRY, LOIS-- BUT I INSIST WE LEAVE! ALL THAT EXCITEMENT ON THE SCREEN HAS GIVEN ME A DIZZY SPELL!
I'LL NEVER GO TO ANOTHER MOVIE WITH YOU AGAIN, YOU--YOU WEAKLING!
PERHAPS THIS SCOOP WILL MAKE YOU FORGIVE ME FOR WHAT I DID TO POOR CLARK!
YOU DESERVE ALL THE CREDIT!
WELL, PAL, OUR SECRET IS STILL A SECRET FROM LOIS!
THE END


SUPERMAN
No.55
WORLD'S LARGEST SELLING COMIC MAGAZINE!
A SUPERMAN PUBLICATION
DC
IND
DEC.
ACTION COMICS

SUPERMAN
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
HAIN'T YO THRILLED, TINY RUFE? WE IS AIK-CHOO-ALLY ALONE AT LAST!
YEP. (GROAN)
YOU HEARD WHAT SHE SAID-- "ALONE"!
ULP!
EVERYONE HAS HEARD OF THE BACK-COUNTRY MOUNTAINEERS -- OF THEIR PIONEER-LIKE EXISTENCE, THEIR HILLBILLY RHYTHM, THEIR INCESSANT FEUDING. THEY ARE A STRANGE FOLK, THESE RUGGED MOUNTAIN-PEOPLE -- BUT THEY ARE AS DISTINCTLY AND UNIQUELY AMERICAN AS HOT DOGS, BASEBALL, AND APPLE PIE.
BUT THO THE LOFTY, SERENE MOUNTAINS HAVE WITNESSED MANY STRANGE AND STIRRING SCENES, THEY HAVE NEVER SIGHTED ANYTHING TO MATCH THE WEIRD SEQUENCE OF EVENTS WHICH OCCUR WHEN A COMIC-STRIP ARTIST GONE STALE AND A CRUSADING SUPERMAN INVADE THEIR SOLITUDE.
IT'S A DIZZY, DAFFY, COMIC AND SLAP-HAPPY SET-UP...ONE TO MAKE EVEN THE MIGHTY MAN OF TOMORROW EXERCISE HIS INGENUITY TO THE UTMOST, IN THE ROOTIN', TOOTIN' SHINAMAROOSHA SAGA OF..."A GOOF NAMED TINY RUFE"!
1

FROM THE SOUND OF ALL THAT SHOUTING AND YELLING IN PERRY WHITE'S OFFICE, YOU'D THINK MAYHEM WAS BEING COMMITTED.
PERHAPS IT IS! ("--I'D BETTER MAKE USE OF MY X-RAY VISION!--")
WHAT CLARK'S ASTOUNDING X-RAY VISION AND SUPER-SENSITIVE HEARING NOTE...
HOW DARE YOU TELL ME, AL HATT, CREATOR OF THE HILARIOUS SLAPSTICK SAM COMIC-STRIP, THAT MY CREATION IS PUNK!
AND I'M BEING CHARITABLE AT THAT! THE SYNDICATE DEPARTMENT TELLS ME THAT YOUR LIST OF NEWSPAPERS HAS FALLEN FROM 500 TO 5--AND THAT THOSE FIVE WILL SOON DROP IT, TOO!
I--I MAY AS WELL FACE FACTS, WHITE. I'M RUNNING OUT OF IDEAS. THE FLOW OF IDEAS IS GONE! I'M A HAS-BEEN...
I KNOW JUST THE PLACE--A CABIN I OWN HIGH UP IN THE MOUNTAINS... NO ONE AROUND FOR MILES EXCEPT SOME IGNORANT MOUNTAINEERS.
GO THERE--AT ONCE--PUT ON YOUR THINKING CAP--AND ABOVE ALL--HA! HA! DON'T WORRY!
WHY DON'T YOU GO TO SOME REMOTE PLACE, AL, WHERE YOU CAN PONDER WITHOUT BEING DISTURBED? I'M TELLING YOU, IF YOU DON'T THINK UP A NEW ANGLE, YOU'RE WASHED-UP AS FAR AS THE COMIC-STRIP GAME IS CONCERNED.
A WEEK LATER--AS CLARK READS THE FUNNIES....
HM-MMM. I WONDER HOW AL HATT IS MAKING OUT IN HIS SEARCH FOR INSPIRATION?
HIS CABIN IS MERELY HUNDREDS OF MILES FROM HERE--BUT IT SHOULDN'T TAKE SUPERMAN LONG TO COVER THAT DISTANCE. I BELIEVE I'LL DROP IN ON HIM AND SEE IF HE IS MAKING ANY PROGRESS.
AND THUS DOES IT OCCUR THAT SHORTLY AFTER, A COLORFULLY-COSTUMED FIGURE PLUMMETS DOWN BESIDE A LOG CABIN DEEP IN THE HILLS...
I'LL JUST PEEK IN THE WINDOW AND SEE HOW HE'S DOING!
TCH! TCH!
2

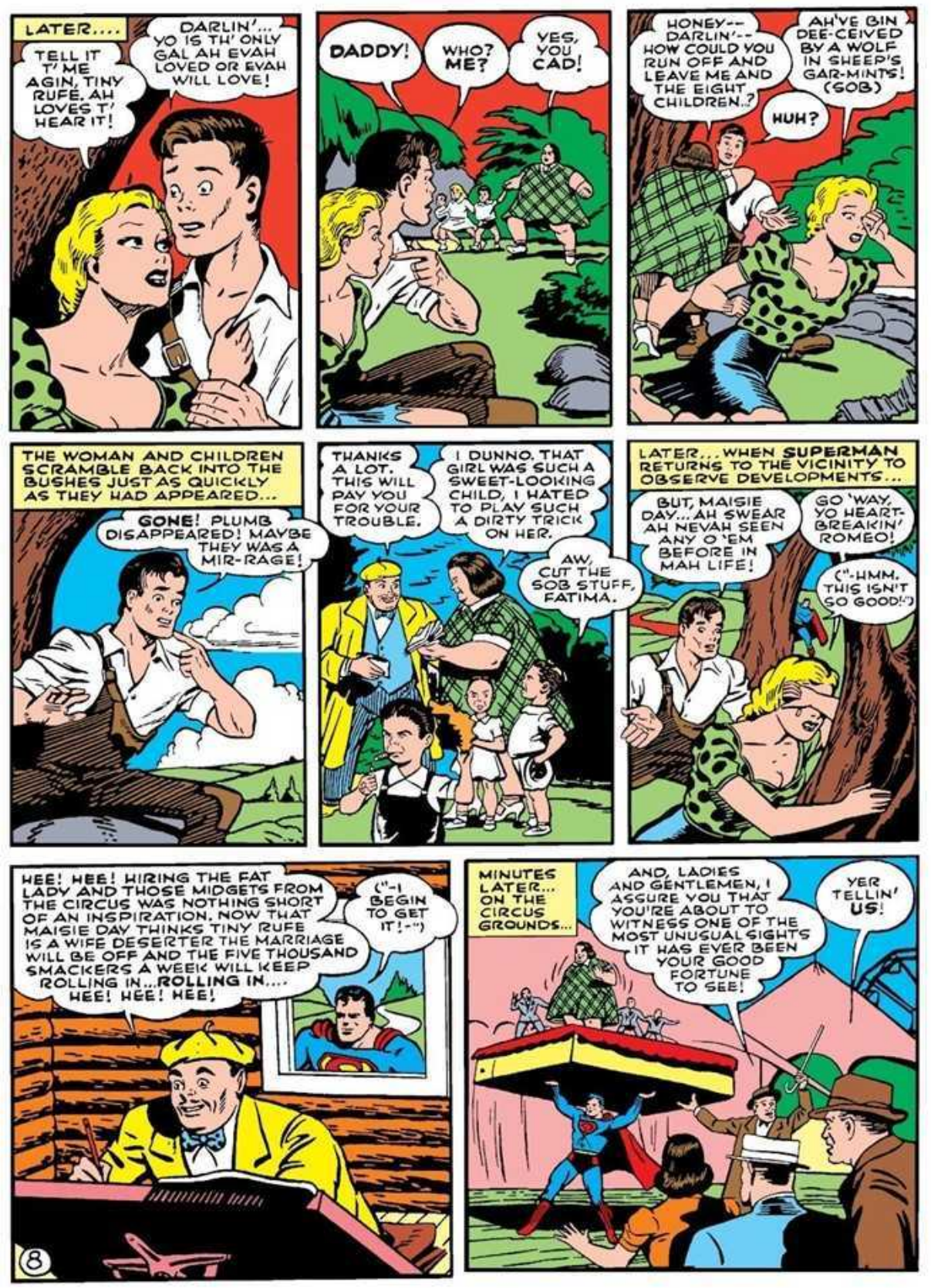
BAH! FOR MORE THAN A WEEK I'VE JUST SAT STARING AT THAT BLANK SHEET OF PAPER--WAITING FOR INSPIRATION TO COME....
BUT IT--WON'T--COME!! IDEA... IDEA... I'VE GOT TO GET AN IDEA! EITHER THAT OR--UNTHINKABLE FATE--I'LL HAVE TO GO BACK TO WORKING FOR A LIVING!
NO USE! MY MIND'S A BLANK! HA! HA! HA!--SO THIS IS THE COMIC BUSINESS! "LEARN TO DRAW CARTOONS AND LEAD THE LIFE OF RILEY"! HA! HA! HA!
ABRUPTLY, SUPERMAN WHIZZES OFF....
SOMEONE COMING!
LE'S SET DOWN, TINY RUFE. AH'S TIRED.
NUTHIN DOIN', MAISIE DAY! EV'RYTIME AH SETS MAHSELF NEXT T'YO--YO GITS RO-MANTICAL!
BUT WHUT'S SO TURRIBLE 'BOUT BEIN' RO-MANTICAL?
MAH MAMMY DONE TOLE ME A GAL'S GONNA SWEET-TALK AN' GIVE ME TH' BIG EYE, BUT WHEN THET SWEET-TALKIN'S DONE--A GAL IS A TWO-FACE, A WORRISOME THING WHO...
3
VOICES OUTSIDE THE CABIN--DISTURBING ME--DISRUPTING MY DESPERATE ATTEMPTS AT CONCENTRATION. I'LL CHASE THEM AWAY!
BUT AS THE COMIC ARTIST OVERHEARS THE VOICES--HE PAUSES--LISTENS--THE TORTURED EXPRESSION LEAVES HIS FACE--HE CHUCKLES...!

KEEP YO DISTANCE, GAL! AH BIN WARNED AGIN DEE-SIGNIN' FE'MALES! FO'WARNED IS FO'ARMED IS MAH MOTTO!
BUT TINY RUFE! DON'T YO EVAH EXPECT T' MARRY UP WIF NOBODY?
MEBBE SO... BUT 'BOUT FIFTY OR SIXTY YARS FUM NOW, AH EXPECTS T'HAVE A POWERFUL TOUGH TIME FINDIN' A GAL T' FIT MAH HIGH REE-QUIRE-MENTS.
AN' WHUT ARE THOSE REE-QUIRE-MENTS, TINY RUFE?
HM-MM. WAL--FER ONE THING TH' GAL WILL HAVE T'HAVE GREAT BIG BEE-UTIFUL BROWN EYES--JUS' LAIK YO HAS. AN' SHE'LL NEED CUTE CUPID BOW LIPS AN'A SUNNY SMILE LAIK YOUR'N. DAINTY, DEE-VINE HANDS--LAIK YO GOT--BUT--SHECKS--RECKON AH'LL NEVAH FIND ME A GAL LAIK THET!
(SNIFF) NO, TINY RUFE. (SOB) AH--AH RECKON YO NEVAH WILL.
("-HO! HO! HO! HA! HA! HA! THOSE--THOSE KIDS! THEY'RE TERRIFIC! I NEVER HEARD ANYTHING AS COMIC IN ALL MY LIFE! HO! HO! HO! WHAT A COMIC-STRIP THEY'D MAKE!-")
SNOOPY
HOLY SMOKE! TH-THAT'S IT! A NEW COMIC STRIP --A STRIP ABOUT A MOUNTAIN BOY AND GIRL... COMEDY... HUMAN INTEREST... PATHOS...! WOW!!!
SPRINGING TO HIS DRAWING BOARD, AL HATT DRAWS SWIFTLY, INSPIRED... HIS TUBBY FIGURE CONTINUALLY CONVULSED WITH GALES OF LAUGHTER....
BOYOHBOYOHBOY! IT'S WONDERFUL, IT'S GIGANTIC, IT'S COLOSSAL--IN FACT... IT'S GOOD!
NO NEED FOR ME TO DALLY HERE ANY FURTHER. AL HATT HAS FOUND THE INSPIRATION HE SOUGHT, AND IT LOOKS LIKE A PERFECT SUCCESS STORY IN THE MAKING.
PERFECT? WELL, THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN, SUPERMAN!
4

IN THE ENSUING DAYS, THE ROMANCE OF MAISIE DAY AND TINY RUFE CONTINUES ON ITS ROCKY PATH....
TINY RUFE! TINY RUFE! WAIT FO' ME!
FEET... GIT A-GOIN'!
MUCH TO THE DELIGHT OF AL HATT....
HEE! HEE! HEE!-- OH-MY! OH-MY GOODNESS! HO! HO! HO! HEE, HEE, HEE!
...AND THE CONTINUED INTEREST OF--SUPERMAN!
IF HE LAUGHS ANY HARDER, HE'LL TOPPLE OFF THAT LIMB!
THEN-- ONE DAY...
WHO WAS THAT-- SUPERMAN?
NO. AL HATT ON HIS WAY TO SEE PERRY WHITE.
HERE YOU ARE, SLAVEDRIVER-- THE STRIP OF THE CENTURY!
YOU NEEDN'T SCARE THE WITS OUT OF ME!
BANG!
THIS IS A MOMENT THAT WILL GO DOWN IN COMIC-STRIP HISTORY! DON'T JUST SIT THERE, WHITE! READ IT-- READ THE STRIP FATED TO CONVULSE THE NATION. READ "TINY RUFE", AMERICA'S NEW COMIC SENSATION BY AMERICA'S FOREMOST COMIC ARTIST-- AL HATT!!
QUIT SHOUTING AND LET ME READ.
HA! HA! HA! WHY, THIS STUFF IS SURE FIRE! YOU HAVE GOT SOMETHING THERE.
YOU THINK I'VE GOT SOMETHING? WHY, MAN, THIS STRIP IS SO GOOD IT FRIGHTENS ME. IT'S GOING TO MAKE SLAPSTICK SAM'S SUCCESS LOOK MICROSCOPIC. ONLY AL HATT COULD HAVE HAD THE FORESIGHT AND VISION TO CONCEIVE SUCH AN INNATELY HUMAN PICTORIAL DOCUMENT AS "TINY RUFE"!
5

A FULL PAGE AD IN EDITOR AND PRINTER STARTS OFF THE CAMPAIGN...
TINY RUFE
TINY RUFE
STARTING TODAY IN THE DAILY PLANET
"TINY RUFE"! HA! HA! HO! HA HA
HAW! HAW! BOY! WOTTA SAP!
M-MMM! CUTE!
WAL, TAN MAH HIDE EF'N HE AIN'T TOPS!
HE'S JUST TOO, TOO EXTRAVAGANTLY SUPER!
COMIC SECTION
AND AS THE WEEKS PASS... 50 NEWSPAPERS--250--500--1000--1500...
MURRAY SAYS THAT IN ALL HIS YEARS IN THE SYNDICATE GAME, HE'S SEEN NOTHING TO COMPARE WITH IT!
THAT GOES FOR ME, TOO, MORT!
AND THE STRIP IDEA WAS SO OBVIOUS! ANYONE COULD HAVE THOUGHT OF IT.
WITHIN MONTHS, THE ENTIRE NATION IS CAPTIVATED BY THIS NEWEST STAR IN THE COMIC-STRIP FIRMAMENT....
RIVAL SYNDICATES ISSUE MANY WEAK COPIES OF THE ORIGINAL, BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS....
TINY TIM
TINY EDDIE
TINY ILLE
TINY LUKE
TINY ED
TINY JOHN
WAYNE
TINY JOE
TINY FRANK
JERRY
AND AS THE COMIC STRIP CLICKS, REVENUE FROM OTHER SOURCES POURS IN, IN A GOLDEN CASCADE: COMIC BOOKS, RADIO, MOVIES, TOYS, CHEWING GUM, SONGS, ETC...
TWO THOUSAND A WEEK--HAH, HAH, HAH--THREE THOUSAND A WEEK--HAH, HAH, HAH--FOUR THOUSAND--FIVE THOUSAND! HAHAHAHA-HAAA-AAA...
6

MONTHS LATER....
WHEW! SOUNDS LIKE A HURRICANE HAS BROKEN LOOSE IN PERRY WHITE'S OFFICE AGAIN.
AL HATT'S IN THERE. STRANGE, THEY'VE BEEN ON EXCELLENT TERMS SINCE THE SUCCESS OF "TINY RUFE". ("-MY X-RAY VISION MAY SUPPLY THE ANSWER.-")
ARE YOU BATTY OR ARE YOU DELIBERATELY TRYING TO KILL THE STRIP? YOU'VE GOTTEN TINY RUFE TO PROPOSE TO MAISIE DAY, AND NOW IT APPEARS THEY'RE ACTUALLY GOING TO GET MARRIED.
B-BUT, MR. WHITE...
DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT IF TINY RUFE ACTUALLY MARRIES THE STRIP WOULD BE KILLED OVERNIGHT? GET BACK TO THAT CABIN OF YOURS AND DREAM UP A WAY TO STOP THAT MARRIAGE.
BUT I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO THINK OF ANYTHING YET.
SWITCHING TO HIS IDENTITY AS SUPERMAN, CLARK KENT LEAPS IN PURSUIT OF THE CARTOONIST'S CAR...
SOMETHING RADICALLY WRONG HERE-- I'D BETTER LOOK INTO IT!
LATER
JUS' THINK! YO HAS AIK-CHOO-ALLY PROPOSED T' ME. OH, TINY RUFE, WHY DIDN'T YO DO IT SOONER?
WHUT AH CAIN'T UNNERSTAN' IS HOW AH DID IT AT ALL?!
BLAST IT! I'VE BEEN BASING MY CONTINUITIES ON THEIR DAY-TO-DAY EXPERIENCES... AND NOW THAT THEY'RE GOING TO BE MARRIED, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO WRITE!
("-OH! SO THAT'S HOW IT IS!-")
("-TOUGH ON AL HATT'S INCOME-- BUT TRUE LOVE AND A COMIC ARTIST'S HUGE INCOME ARE TWO DIFFERENT MATTERS!-")
SHORTLY AFTER--AS THE FRANTIC CARTOONIST GOES FOR A LONG DRIVE THRU THE MOUNTAINS...
A TRAVELLING CIRCUS... PERHAPS WATCHING IT FOR A FEW HOURS WILL TAKE MY MIND OFF MY WORRIES... BUT I DOUBT IT!


LATER....
DARLIN'... YO IS TH' ONLY GAL AH EVAH LOVED OR EVAH WILL LOVE!
TELL IT T' ME AGIN, TINY RUFE. AH LOVES T' HEAR IT!
DADDY!
WHO? ME?
YES, YOU CAD!
HONEY--DARLIN'--HOW COULD YOU RUN OFF AND LEAVE ME AND THE EIGHT CHILDREN..?
AH'VE BIN DEE-CEIVED BY A WOLF IN SHEEP'S GAR-MINTS! (SOB)
HUH?
THE WOMAN AND CHILDREN SCRAMBLE BACK INTO THE BUSHES JUST AS QUICKLY AS THEY HAD APPEARED...
GONE! PLUMB DISAPPEARED! MAYBE THEY WAS A MIR-RAGE!
THANKS A LOT. THIS WILL PAY YOU FOR YOUR TROUBLE.
I DUNNO. THAT GIRL WAS SUCH A SWEET-LOOKING CHILD, I HATED TO PLAY SUCH A DIRTY TRICK ON HER.
AW, CUT THE SOB STUFF, FATIMA.
LATER... WHEN SUPERMAN RETURNS TO THE VICINITY TO OBSERVE DEVELOPMENTS...
BUT, MAISIE DAY... AH SWEAR AH NEVAH SEEN ANY O 'EM BEFORE IN MAH LIFE!
GO 'WAY, YO HEART-BREAKIN' ROMEO!
("-HMM. THIS ISN'T SO GOOD!-)
HEE! HEE! HIRING THE FAT LADY AND THOSE MIDGETS FROM THE CIRCUS WAS NOTHING SHORT OF AN INSPIRATION. NOW THAT MAISIE DAY THINKS TINY RUFE IS A WIFE DESERTER THE MARRIAGE WILL BE OFF AND THE FIVE THOUSAND SMACKERS A WEEK WILL KEEP ROLLING IN...ROLLING IN.... HEE! HEE! HEE!
("-I BEGIN TO GET IT!-")
MINUTES LATER... ON THE CIRCUS GROUNDS...
AND, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I ASSURE YOU THAT YOU'RE ABOUT TO WITNESS ONE OF THE MOST UNUSUAL SIGHTS IT HAS EVER BEEN YOUR GOOD FORTUNE TO SEE!
YER TELLIN' US!
8

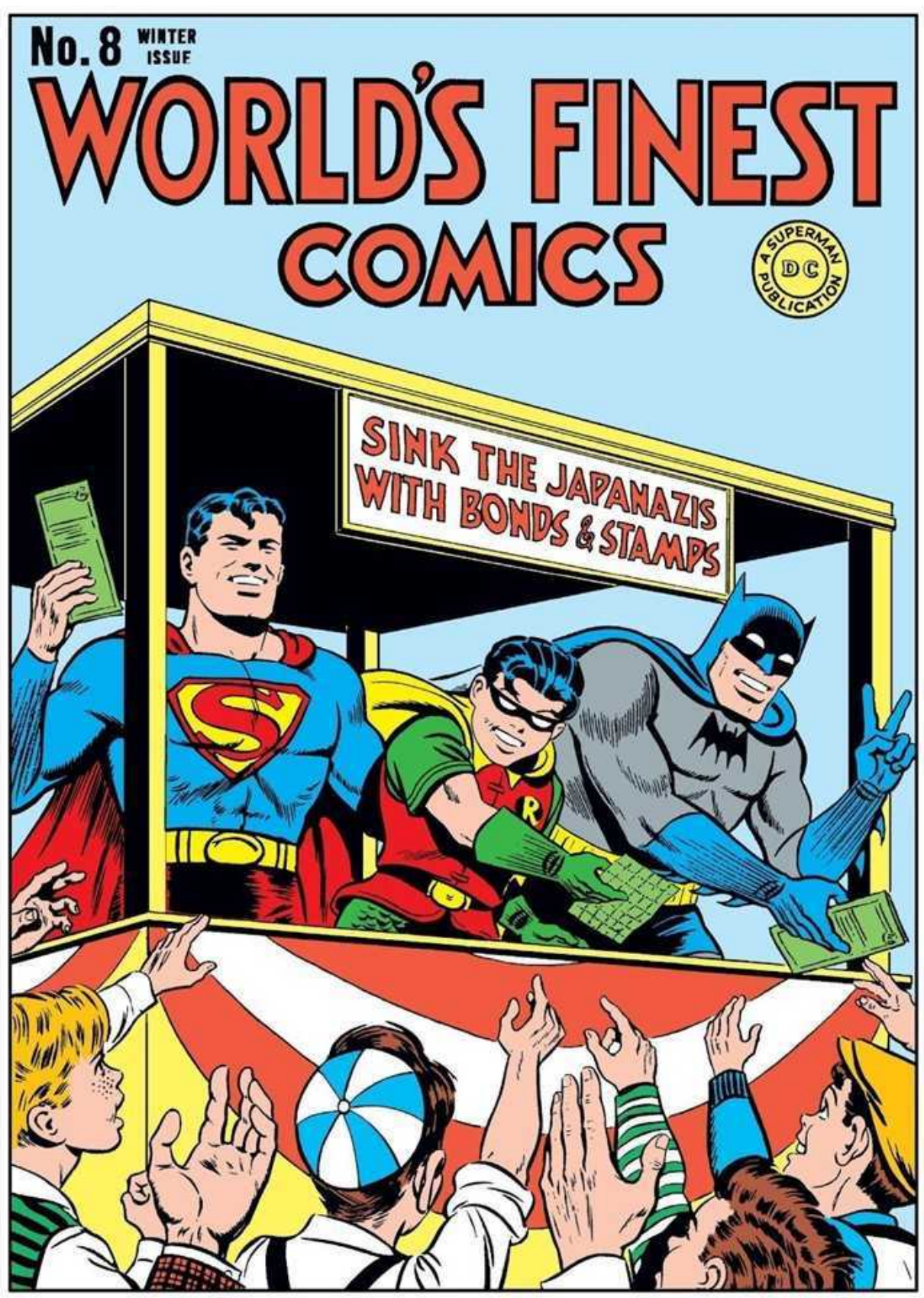
YOU OUGHT TO BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELVES, ALL OF YOU-- TRYING TO BREAK UP A BEAUTIFUL ROMANCE.
EEK!
WE ARE SORRY! GIVE US A CHANCE TO SQUARE THINGS, SUPERMAN, AND WE PROMISE TO STICK TO THE CIRCUS ACT HEREAFTER!
IT'S ALL BEEN A MISTAKE... A JOKE. AS YOU CAN SEE, THESE ARE MIDGETS, NOT CHILDREN.
AND I WAS NEVER MARRIED TO YOUR BOYFRIEND, DEARIE. I HOPE YOU'LL FORGIVE ME.
A JOKE?
HO! HO! AH SEES IT ALL NOW-- VURRY HOOMERUS!
SOON AFTER SUPERMAN SPRINGS BACK TOWARD THE CIRCUS GROUNDS WITH THE ENTERTAINERS, AL HATT COMES UPON THE SCENE...
AH'M SO SORRY AH DOUBTED YO, TINY RUFE. AM AH FO'GIVEN?
UH-HUH. AN' WE'LL BE MARRIED --JUS' LAK WE PLANNED!
("-WHA?!- THEY'RE REUNITED!-")
DOES YO MIND EF AH RUNS MAH HAND THRU YORE CURLY LOCKS? THEY'S WHAT FUST AT'RAKTED ME T' YO!
AH DON'T MIND A'TALL --IN FACK, EF TH' TRUTH BE KNOWED-- AH LIKE IT!
("-CURLY LOCKS! THAT'S IT!!-")
SO THE PRINCIPAL REASON SHE ADORES HIM IS HIS CURLY HAIR, EH? HM-MM. THIS CHEMICAL, ONCE IT'S APPLIED TO HIS DOME, WILL LEAVE HIM BALDER THAN AN EAGLE. THEN WE'LL SEE IF SHE'LL STILL CARE TO MARRY HER PRECIOUS TINY RUFE!
("-MORE DIRTY WORK!-")
MY TRAINING IN AMATEUR THEATRICALS WILL COME IN HANDY NOW, DISGUISED AS A TRAVELLING MERCHANT, I'LL GET TINY RUFE TO POUR SOME OF THE SOLUTION ON HIS PATE. THEN--WE'LL SEE WHAT WE'LL SEE!
("-AND I'LL BE THERE TO SEE WHAT I WANT TO SEE!-")
9
SOON AFTER, THE DISGUISED CARTOONIST ENCOUNTERS TINY RUFE...
YOU LOOK VERY HAPPY INDEED, YOUNG MAN... ALMOST AS THO YOU WERE GOING TO YOUR WEDDING.
WHUT A PEE-KOOL-YAR QUINCIDENCE! AH IS GITTIN' MARRIED SOON!
IN THAT EVENT YOU WILL BE FACED WITH THE PROBLEM OF SUPPORTING A WIFE AND FAMILY. YOUNG MAN, IF YOU WANT TO GET AHEAD IN THE WORLD, THIS BRAIN-OIL I'M SELLING IS JUST THE THING FOR YOU. RUB IT ON YOUR HEAD AND IT WILL EXPAND YOUR BRAIN UNTIL YOU HAVE A VERITABLE SUPER-MIND.
AH COULD USE A BRAIN, SUH, AT THET!

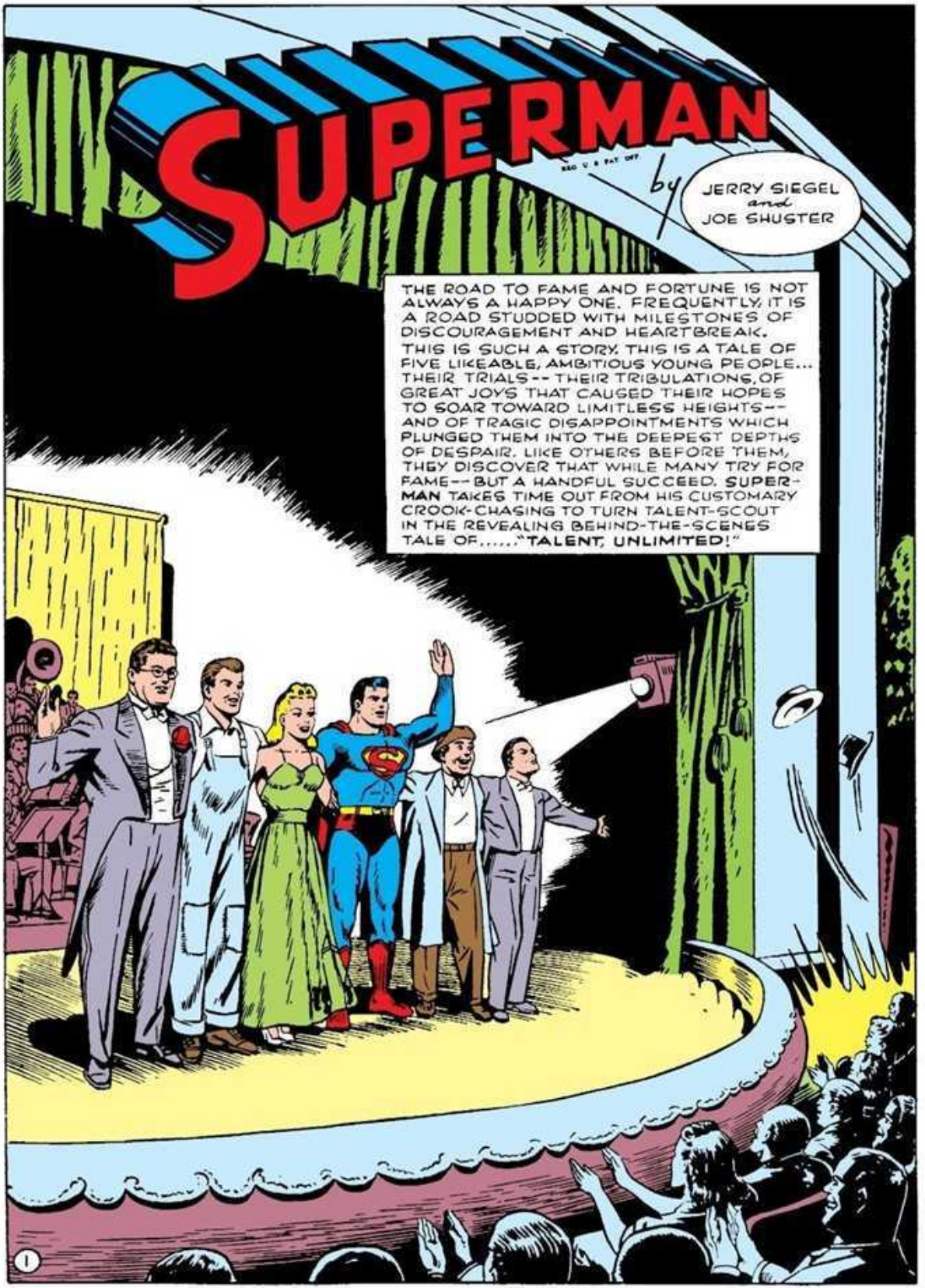
BUT AS TINY RUFE REACHES FOR THE BOTTLE OF "BRAIN-OIL", HANDS, SPEEDING BY SO FAST THE EYE CANNOT FOLLOW, SNATCH THE BOTTLE....
AN INFINITESIMAL FRACTION OF AN INSTANT LATER, WITHIN AL HATT'S CABIN, THE CONTENTS OF THE BOTTLE ARE EXCHANGED WITH THAT OF A BOTTLE OF SHAMPOO FLUID...
...AND BEFORE EVEN A HALF SECOND HAS PASSED, THE BOTTLE OF "BRAIN-OIL" IS RETURNED TO THE CARTOONIST'S PALM...
HOW MUCH DOES AH OWE YO, SUH?
NOT A CENT, YOUNG MAN, IT'S THAT MUCH OF A PLEASURE TO ME TO SEE YOU RUB IT ON.
THAT EVENING... BEFORE RETIRING AL HATT GOES THRU THE ROUTINE OF HIS CUSTOMARY SHAMPOO...
HO! HO! HO! WHEN I THINK OF WHAT I DID TO THAT YOUNG SAP..! HA! HA!
YIPE HOW??! WHAT ??&!#?!
I DON'T KNOW HOW THOSE BOTTLES GOT SWITCHED BUT THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO COUNTERACT THIS UNEXPECTED DISASTER--CONTACT ROMONA ROMANCE, THE "WHEE-YEW GAL" IN HOLLYWOOD! I GOT HER HER FIRST BREAK IN THE MOVIES, AND SHE SWORE SHE'D DO ME A GOOD TURN WHENEVER I NEEDED IT!
ROMONA? THIS IS AL HATT CALLING. A DESPERATE EMERGENCY!--I WANT YOU TO TURN YOUR FAMOUS "WHEE-YEW APPEAL" ON A CERTAIN TALL, BROAD-SHOULDERED AND HANDSOME HILLBILLY!
TALL, BROAD-SHOULDERED, AND HANDSOME, YOU SAY? M-MMM. YOU INTEREST ME. SEE YOU AT THE AIRPORT IN THE MORNING, LAMBIE!
THE AIRPORT IN THE MORNING, EH? I'LL MAKE A NOTE OF THAT!
NEXT MORNING...
WHEE-YEW!
THIS IS THE PLOT--YOU LEAD HIM TO BELIEVE HE'S SAVED YOUR LIFE--I'LL REMIND HIM THAT ACCORDING TO THE "CODE OF THE HILLS", HE'S THEN FORCED TO MARRY YOU. HE BREAKS HIS ENGAGEMENT WITH MAISIE DAY...THEN...YOU DROP HIM AT YOUR LEISURE...
AN' WHEN I DROP 'EM... THEY STAY DROPPED...!
WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?
SHE SMILED AT HIM!
10

LATER...
HELP! HELP!
SAVE THAT GIRL!
COORAGE, LADY! AH'M A-COMIN'!
YOU BRAVE, WONDERFUL BOY! YOU HAVE SAVED THE LIFE OF ROMONA ROMANCE--AND IN GRATITUDE, I AM PREPARED TO MAKE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE!
LUCKY LAD! SHE MEANS SHE'LL MARRY YOU! THAT'S "THE CODE OF THE HILLS", YOU KNOW!
TH-THET'S KEE-RECKT!
ONLY ONE WAY TO EXTRICATE TINY RUFE FROM THIS SITUATION. BUT FIRST I'LL HAVE TO SWITCH TO MY IDENTITY AS CLARK KENT.
BEG PARDON, MISS ROMANCE. I'M A NEWSPAPER REPORTER. DID I HEAR YOU SAY THAT YOU'RE ABOUT TO GIVE UP YOUR MOVIE CAREER TO WED THIS CORN-FED PRINCE CHARMING?
EXACTLY!
("-IF WORD GETS OUT I'M ENGAGED TO AN IGNORANT HILLBILLY I'LL BE BACK JUGGLING WHEATCAKES IN NO TIME!-")
I SHOULD SAY NOT! THE WEDDING'S OFF!
BUT ROMON--!
SPLASH
MOS' CONFOOZIN'!
IT WOULD HAVE MADE A GREAT NEWS STORY.
BUT AL HATT IS NOT ONE TO GIVE UP EASILY....
IS THET REFERRIN' T' US?
IT'S IN HONOR OF THE COMING WEDDING. I WANT THE MEMBERS OF BOTH FAMILIES TO GET ACQUAINTED.
COME ONE, COME ALL
RELATIVES OF MAISIE DAY AND TINY RUFE INVITED TO PRE-WEDDING CELEBRATION
FREE EATS FREE DRINKS FREE GAMES
COURTESY OF AL HATT
CARTOONIST
THE COMIC ARTIST'S SCHEME WORKS! NO SOONER DOES A GAME BEGIN THAN CRIES OF CHEATING FILL THE AIR--AND IN ANOTHER MOMENT BEDLAM REIGNS...
POLECAT!
CROOK!
FEUD! FEUD!
STOP! STOP FIGHTING AND LISTEN TO ME!
CALL OFF TH' WEDDIN'!
11
THESE ARE CROOKED DICE THAT YOUR HOST SUPPLIED YOU WITH.
THET RIGHT, STRANGER?
BUT--HEH, HEH--I MEANT IT JUST AS A JOKE!
THANKS FO' A SWELL FEED, STRANGER. WE SHO ADMIRED YORE FINE SENSE O' HOOMER!
THE NET RESULT OF THAT SCHEME IS MY CABIN IS PRACTICALLY KNOCKED APART. BLAST THAT SUPERMAN! WHY DOESN'T HE CHASE SOMEBODY IMPORTANT LIKE LUTHOR AND LEAVE ME ALONE?

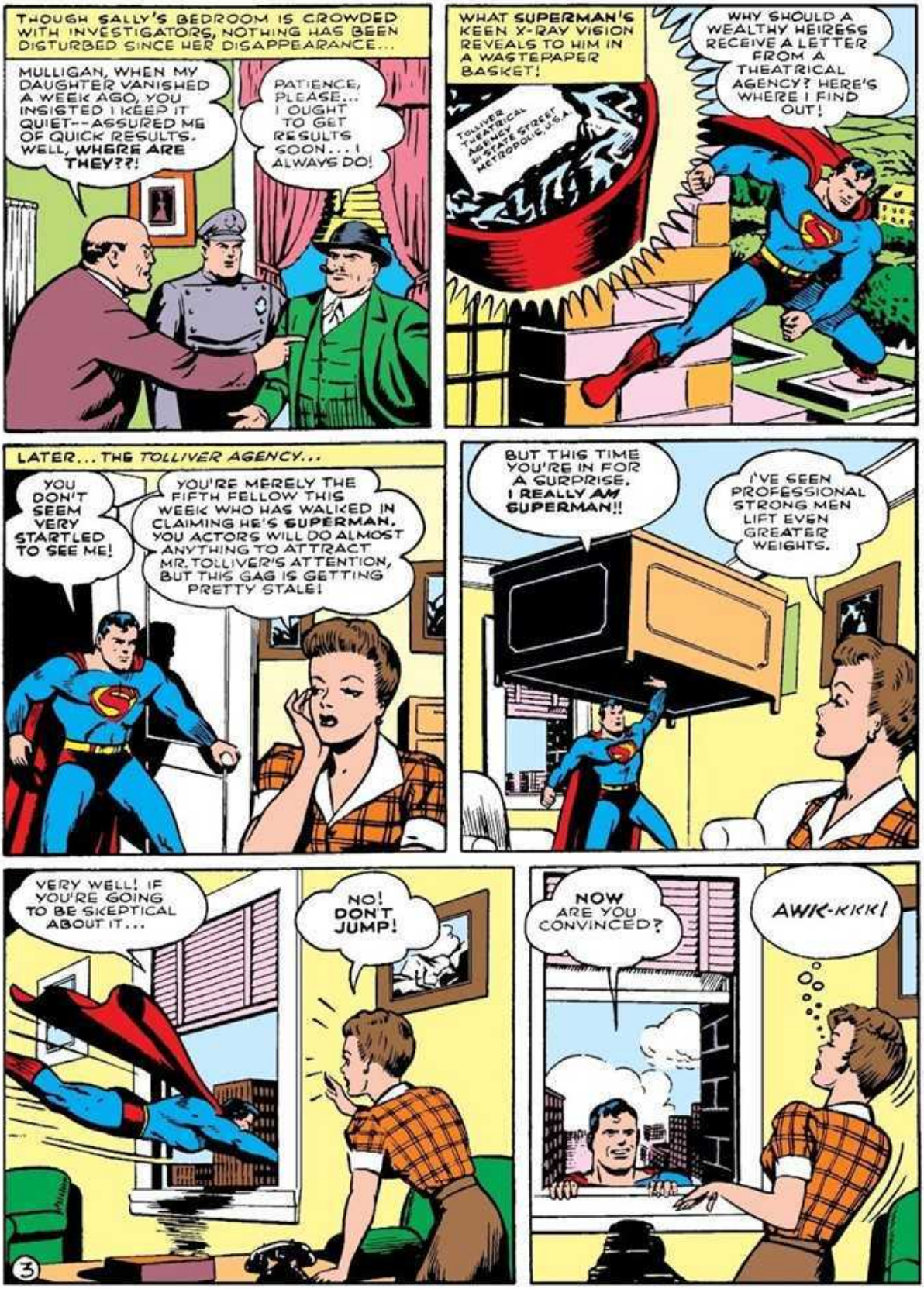
DESPERATION DRIVES AL HATT INTO PUTTING ANOTHER PLAN INTO EFFECT....
THESE TWO BUCKS ARE YOURS, HEMHAW BLOOK, IF YOU FIGHT TINY RUFE FOR MAISIE DAY'S HAND —AND WIN!
BUT TINY RUFE IS TH' BEST RASSLER IN TH' HILLS!
DON'T WORRY, HE WON'T WIN!
THE CARTOONIST DROPS A CERTAIN LIQUID INTO A GLASS OF CARBONATED BEVERAGE, THEN...
HERE'S A SOFT DRINK, TINY RUFE--AND WITH IT GO MY WISHES TO YOU AND YOUR BRIDE-TO-BE. ("-BUT I'M NOT STIPULATING WHAT KIND OF WISHES!-")
THANKS.
AND AFTER TINY RUFE DRINKS THE POTION...
AH PERFESSES THET TH' CODE O' TH' HILLS GIVES ME TH' RIGHT T' FIGHT FO' MAISIE DAY'S HAND.
THAS A FAC', TINY RUFE. HE HAS TH' RIGHT.
THEN AH'LL FIGHT 'IM-- EVEN THO MA HEAD IS SPINNIN'!
("-SOMETHING WRONG HERE...")
SO SWIFTLY THAT NO ONE OBSERVES, SUPERMAN YANKS TINY RUFE AROUND THE CORNER OF THE CABIN'S WALL...
SORRY, BUT THIS IS FOR A GOOD CAUSE!
...THEN, DONNING THE OTHER'S GARMENTS, AND TWISTING HIS OWN PLASTIC FEATURES...
LIKE TWINS!
OOF!
SUPERMAN STEPS BACK AND ENDS THE WRESTLING MATCH ALMOST AS QUICKLY AS IT BEGINS!
SHORT AN' SWEET!
TINY RUFE REVIVES TO FIND--
YO WON-- YO WON! YO BEAT HEMHAW BLOOK IN FAIR FIGHT-- AN' AH IS YORES.!
DID AH? STRANGE --AH DON'T R'CALL...!
YO DAWG! THOT YO SAID HE'D BE WEAK?!!
CAN I HELP IT IF HE HAS THE CONSTITUTION OF AN ELEPHANT?
CAME THE DAY OF THE WEDDING-- AND NO TINY RUFE ANYWHERE TO BE FOUND!
AH IS DIS-GRACED! 'BANDONED AT TH' ALTAR!
THET DON'T SOUND LAK TINY RUFE!
WHAR IS TINY RUFE?
("-HM-M, I'VE A HUNCH AS TO WHO MIGHT HAVE THE ANSWER TO THAT ONE!-")
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH TINY RUFE?!
TINY RUFE? DID YOU SAY TINY RUFE? NEVER HEARD OF ANYONE BY THAT NAME!
12

MERCILESSLY, SUPERMAN SUBJECTS AL HATT TO A SERIES OF HIS MOST HAIR-RAISING ACROBATICS. THEN...
I HIRED SOME THUGS TO IMPRISON HIM IN A CAVE AT THE FOOT OF PIN-TOP MOUNTAIN!
YOU FOOL! THEY'RE BLASTING THERE TODAY!
CHEE, KID! IT WAS SWELL OF YOUSE TO LET US KIDNAP YA AFTER WE EXPLAINED WE WAS ONLY DOIN' IT SO AS WE COULD RAISE ENOUGH DOUGH T'GET OUR OLD LADY A BOITHDAY GIFT.
THEY'RE LYING, TINY RUFE!
THINK NOTHIN' OF IT, BOYS. AH HAS A MAMMY, MAHSELF!
HEY! SUPERMAN!
MAH MAMMY ALLUS TAUGHT ME FIBBERS SHOULD BE PUNISHED!
YOU TELL 'EM, TINY RUFE!
BARELY MADE IT!
AS THE WEDDING CEREMONY BEGINS, AL HATT PLAYS HIS FINAL AND GREATEST CARD...
STOP THE WEDDING! MARRIAGE HAS BEEN OUTLAWED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY VOTE OF CONGRESS!
ZATSO?
NOW TELL THEM THE TRUTH!
I LIED. I HAD A PRINTER PRINT THAT FAKE HEADLINE FOR ME!
AND SO TINY RUFE AND MAISIE DAY WERE MARRIED. AND GUESS WHAT--THEY LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER!
WEEKS LATER... THE DAILY PLANET EDITORIAL OFFICE...
DON'T BE ALARMED, LOIS. THAT'S JUST AL HATT AGAIN.
HE HASN'T BEEN AROUND FOR WEEKS... NOT SINCE HE MARRIED OFF HIS TWO LEADING CHARACTERS AND HIS STRIP DIED AN UNTIMELY DEATH.
IT'S NEW, IT'S DIFFERENT, IT'S SENSATIONAL! I TELL YOU, WHITE--IT SURPASSES EVEN SLAPSTICK SAM AND TINY RUFE PUT TOGETHER!
BY GEORGE--A THIRD COME-BACK IN THE COMIC STRIP GAME HAS NEVER BEEN ACCOMPLISHED--BUT I BELIEVE YOU'VE DONE IT!
STARTING MONDAY IN THE DAILY PLANET THE ADVENTURE-STRIP TO END ALL ADVENTURE-STRIPS
SUPERMAN
AL HATT'S LATEST AND GREATEST INSPIRATION!
THE END
13

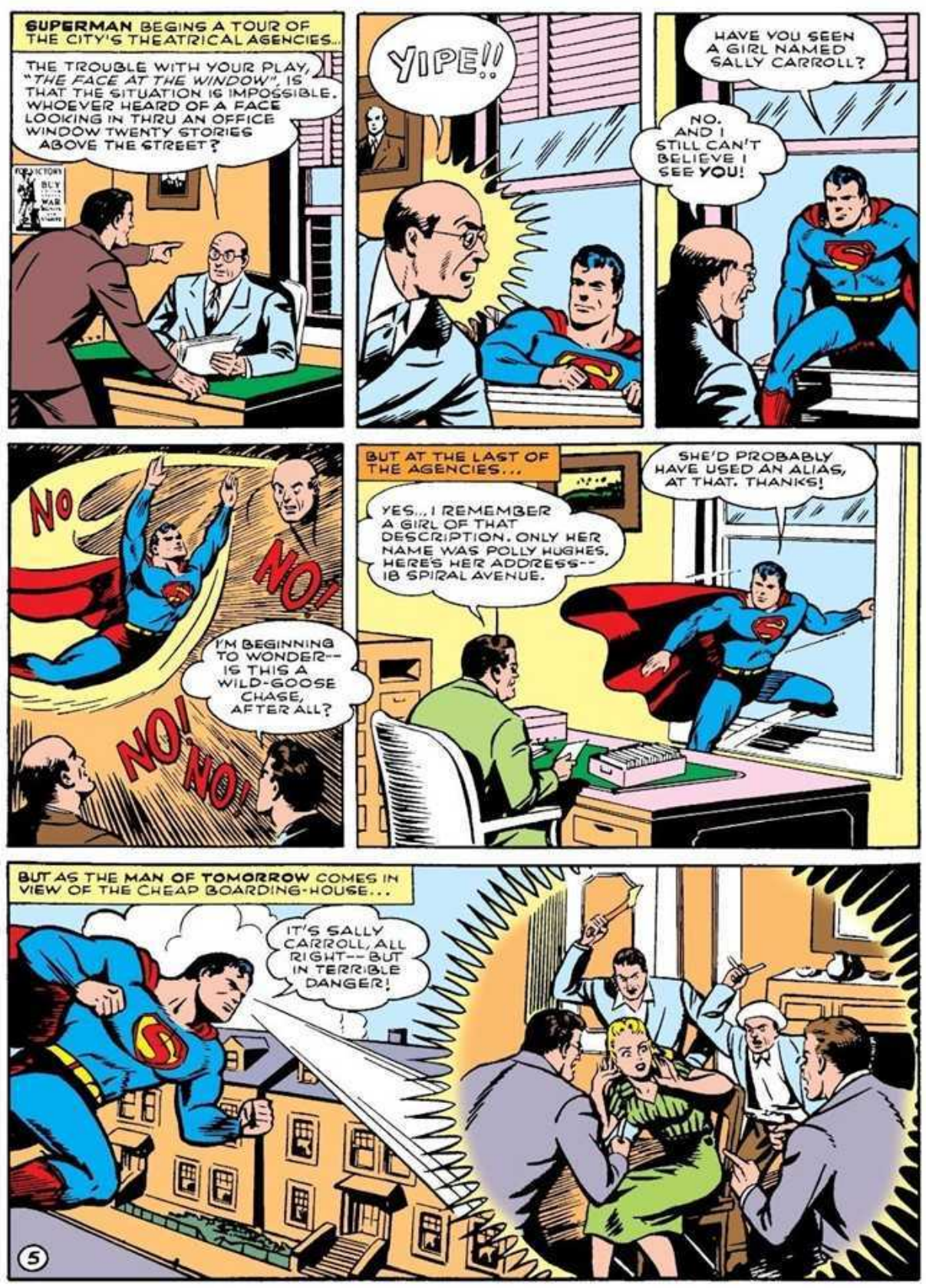

No. 8 WINTER ISSUE
WORLD'S FINEST COMICS
A SUPERMAN PUBLICATION
DC
SINK THE JAPANAZIS WITH BONDS & STAMPS


SUPERMAN
REG U S PAT OFF
by
JERRY SIEGEL
and
JOE SHUSTER
THE ROAD TO FAME AND FORTUNE IS NOT ALWAYS A HAPPY ONE. FREQUENTLY, IT IS A ROAD STUDDED WITH MILESTONES OF DISCOURAGEMENT AND HEARTBREAK. THIS IS SUCH A STORY. THIS IS A TALE OF FIVE LIKEABLE, AMBITIOUS YOUNG PEOPLE... THEIR TRIALS -- THEIR TRIBULATIONS, OF GREAT JOYS THAT CAUSED THEIR HOPES TO SOAR TOWARD LIMITLESS HEIGHTS -- AND OF TRAGIC DISAPPOINTMENTS WHICH PLUNGED THEM INTO THE DEEPEST DEPTHS OF DESPAIR. LIKE OTHERS BEFORE THEM, THEY DISCOVER THAT WHILE MANY TRY FOR FAME -- BUT A HANDFUL SUCCEED. SUPERMAN TAKES TIME OUT FROM HIS CUSTOMARY CROOK-CHASING TO TURN TALENT-SCOUT IN THE REVEALING BEHIND-THE-SCENES TALE OF....."TALENT, UNLIMITED!"
1

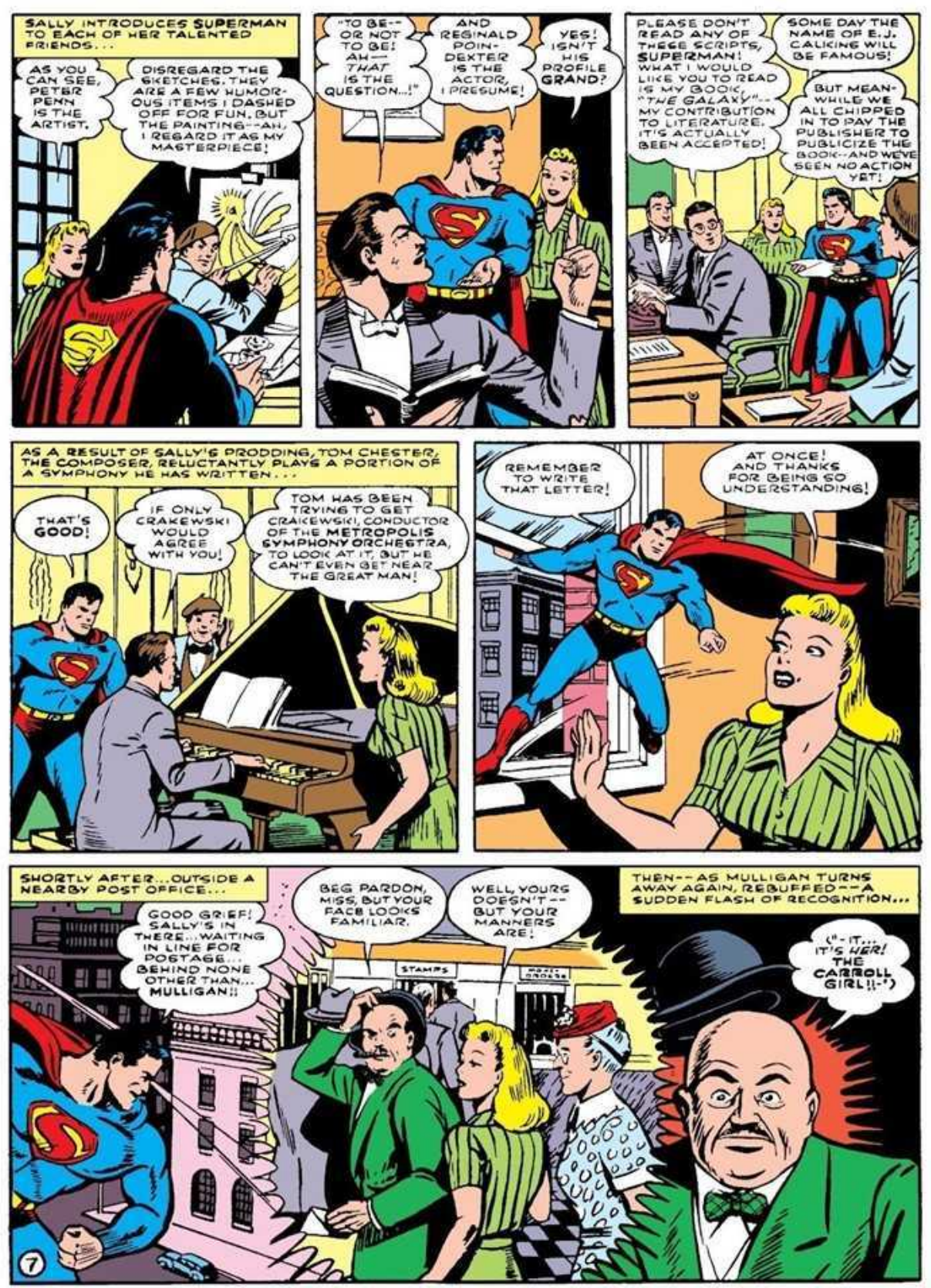
PLANET
HEIRESS VANISH
SALLY CARROLL
DETAILS ON THIS STORY ARE SCANTY. HOW ABOUT HOPPING DOWN TO JASPER CARROLL'S HOME AND LEARNING WHAT YOU CAN?
RIGHT, CHIEF!
WHEN CLARK REACHES THE CARROLL MANSION....
SORRY, BOYS. I HAVE STRICT ORDERS TO KEEP ALL REPORTERS OUT!
AW, HAVE A HEART!
WE'RE JUST TRYING TO MAKE A LIVING!
SLIPPING AWAY FROM THE OTHERS, THE DAILY PLANET REPORTER CHANGES TO THE COLORFUL COSTUME OF THE WORLD'S MOST DYNAMIC MAN--SUPERMAN!
CAN'T DISAPPOINT THE PLANET'S LEGION OF READERS!
A POWERFUL LEAP LAUNCHES THE MAN OF TOMORROW TOWARD A BRANCH FAR OVERHEAD...
THERE'S MORE THAN ONE WAY TO GET A SCOOP!
--AND THIS IS ONE OF THEM!
VOICES INSIDE-- I'LL EAVESDROP!
2


THOUGH SALLY'S BEDROOM IS CROWDED WITH INVESTIGATORS, NOTHING HAS BEEN DISTURBED SINCE HER DISAPPEARANCE...
MULLIGAN, WHEN MY DAUGHTER VANISHED A WEEK AGO, YOU INSISTED I KEEP IT QUIET--ASSURED ME OF QUICK RESULTS. WELL, WHERE ARE THEY??!
PATIENCE, PLEASE... I OUGHT TO GET RESULTS SOON... I ALWAYS DO!
WHAT SUPERMAN'S KEEN X-RAY VISION REVEALS TO HIM IN A WASTEPAPER BASKET!
TOLLIVER THEATRICAL AGENCY 311 STATE STREET METROPOLIS, U.S.A.
WHY SHOULD A WEALTHY HEIRESS RECEIVE A LETTER FROM A THEATRICAL AGENCY? HERE'S WHERE I FIND OUT!
LATER... THE TOLLIVER AGENCY...
YOU DON'T SEEM VERY STARTLED TO SEE ME!
YOU'RE MERELY THE FIFTH FELLOW THIS WEEK WHO HAS WALKED IN CLAIMING HE'S SUPERMAN. YOU ACTORS WILL DO ALMOST ANYTHING TO ATTRACT MR. TOLLIVER'S ATTENTION, BUT THIS GAG IS GETTING PRETTY STALE!
BUT THIS TIME YOU'RE IN FOR A SURPRISE. I REALLY AM SUPERMAN!!
I'VE SEEN PROFESSIONAL STRONG MEN LIFT EVEN GREATER WEIGHTS.
VERY WELL! IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE SKEPTICAL ABOUT IT...
NO! DON'T JUMP!
NOW ARE YOU CONVINCED?
AWK-KKK!
3

IN MR. TOLLIVER'S PRIVATE OFFICE...
WOTTAYA MEAN, THIS ISN'T SENSATIONAL ENOUGH?
NEXT TIME KNOCK! HEY, YOU TWO! THROW THAT INTRUDER OUT, AND YOU'RE HIRED!
I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO YOU, MR. TOLLIVER!
SORRY, BUDDY!
BUT WE NEED THE JOB BADLY.
I UNDERSTAND.
AFTER TOLLIVER SECURELY LOCKS THE DOOR...
HA! HA! I KNEW THAT GUY WAS A PHONY THE SECOND I SPOTTED HIM. HE WON'T BOTHER US ANY LONGER.
L-LOOK!
TH'-- TH' DOOR-- SHAKING!
NOW THAT I'VE MADE SURE THE ACROBATS WILL GET THE JOB YOU PROMISED THEM--TELL ME WHY YOU WROTE TO SALLY CARROLL.
YOU AGAIN! GET OUT! IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
STILL POSITIVE IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS?
ULP!--ER-- COME TO THINK OF IT-- M-MAYBE IT IS!
ACCORDING TO THESE FILES, WE SENT HER A ROUTINE FORM ANSWERING HER INQUIRY AS TO WHETHER WE COULD GET HER A JOB AS A SINGER. BUT SHE NEVER CAME IN TO SEE ME!
IT'LL TAKE ME ONLY AN INSTANT TO MEMORIZE THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ALL THE THEATRICAL AGENCIES IN TOWN!
PS-ST!
NOW'S OUR CHANCE!
OWCH! WHERE IS HE?
HE WHIZZED OUT THAT WINDOW!!
BONG!
4


SUPERMAN BEGINS A TOUR OF THE CITY'S THEATRICAL AGENCIES...
THE TROUBLE WITH YOUR PLAY, "THE FACE AT THE WINDOW", IS THAT THE SITUATION IS IMPOSSIBLE. WHOEVER HEARD OF A FACE LOOKING IN THRU AN OFFICE WINDOW TWENTY STORIES ABOVE THE STREET?
BUY WAR
YIPE!!
HAVE YOU SEEN A GIRL NAMED SALLY CARROLL?
NO. AND I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE I SEE YOU!
NO
NO!
I'M BEGINNING TO WONDER-- IS THIS A WILD-GOOSE CHASE, AFTER ALL?
NO! NO!
BUT AT THE LAST OF THE AGENCIES...
YES... I REMEMBER A GIRL OF THAT DESCRIPTION. ONLY HER NAME WAS POLLY HUGHES. HERE'S HER ADDRESS-- 18 SPIRAL AVENUE.
SHE'D PROBABLY HAVE USED AN ALIAS, AT THAT. THANKS!
BUT AS THE MAN OF TOMORROW COMES IN VIEW OF THE CHEAP BOARDING-HOUSE...
IT'S SALLY CARROLL, ALL RIGHT-- BUT IN TERRIBLE DANGER!
5

PICK ON A DEFENSELESS GIRL, WILL YOU? WHY NOT TRY GETTING TOUGH WITH ME?
SUPERMAN!
STOP IT! STOP IT!
SA-AAY! WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON, ANYWAY? I THOUGHT I WAS SUPPOSED TO BE SAVING YOU!
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! THESE FRIENDS OF MINE WERE JUST GIVING ME SOME DRAMATIC COACHING!
THIS IS WHAT I GET FOR WRITING SUCH A POWERFUL SKETCH!
I MUST HAVE GIVEN A REALISTIC PERFORMANCE!
SUPERMAN TAKES THE GIRL OUT OF THE OTHERS' EARSHOT...
I KNOW YOU'RE SALLY CARROLL. YOU'RE GOING HOME WITH ME TO YOUR FATHER.
PLEASE LET ME STAY HERE. I RAN AWAY BECAUSE I WAS BORED. --I BELIEVE I CAN GO FAR WITH MY VOICE. AND THESE BOYS ARE VERY ENCOURAGING. LET ME TELL YOU HOW I MET THEM.
"-NO AGENT COULD GET ME A JOB. SOON MY FUNDS WERE EXHAUSTED. ONE NIGHT I TRIED MY LUCK AT SINGING FOR PENNIES BEFORE PASSERS-BY...-"
SORRY--YOU'LL HAVE TO CUT OUT THE SINGING...
I WAS ONLY TRYING TO RAISE ENOUGH MONEY TO BUY A MEAL.
PS-ST!
COME HERE!
YOU'VE A BEAUTIFUL VOICE!
AND YOU'RE HUNGRY! WE'LL SNEAK YOU A MEAL!
"-THEY WERE SWELL TO ME. THO THEY ASPIRED TO BE A SUCCESSFUL WRITER, MUSICIAN, ARTIST, AND ACTOR, THEIR FUNDS WERE LOW AND SO THEY WORKED IN THE RESTAURANT AS DISHWASHER, PIANO-PLAYER, COOK, AND WAITER.-"
THIS IS GRAND OF YOU.
OH-OH! THE BOSS--HE WARNED US WE'D GET BOUNCED NEXT TIME WE GAVE SOMEONE A HANDOUT!
CLEAR THE DECKS FOR ACTION!
"-A BATTLE ROYAL ENSUED. AND ALL BECAUSE THOSE FOUR WONDERFUL MEN HAD BEFRIENDED ME!-"
"-WHEN THE MINOR WAR ENDED...-"
SO WHAT IF WE WERE FIRED? THIS WILL GIVE ME A CHANCE TO COMPLETE MY NOVEL!
WHAT IS MONEY? MERE PAPER!
I'M THE CAUSE OF IT ALL!
FORGET IT!
OUR LANDLADY WILL GIVE YOU A ROOM UNTIL YOU FIND A JOB! SHE'S WONDERFUL!
AND SO PERHAPS YOU CAN UNDERSTAND WHY I WANT TO REMAIN HERE--WORK UP TO SUCCESS--AS THESE FOUR ARE CERTAIN TO!
VERY WELL. BUT WRITE YOUR FATHER AT ONCE AND TELL HIM YOU ARE WELL. AND WRITE HIM REGULARLY. I'LL KEEP YOUR SECRET... POLLY HUGHES!
6

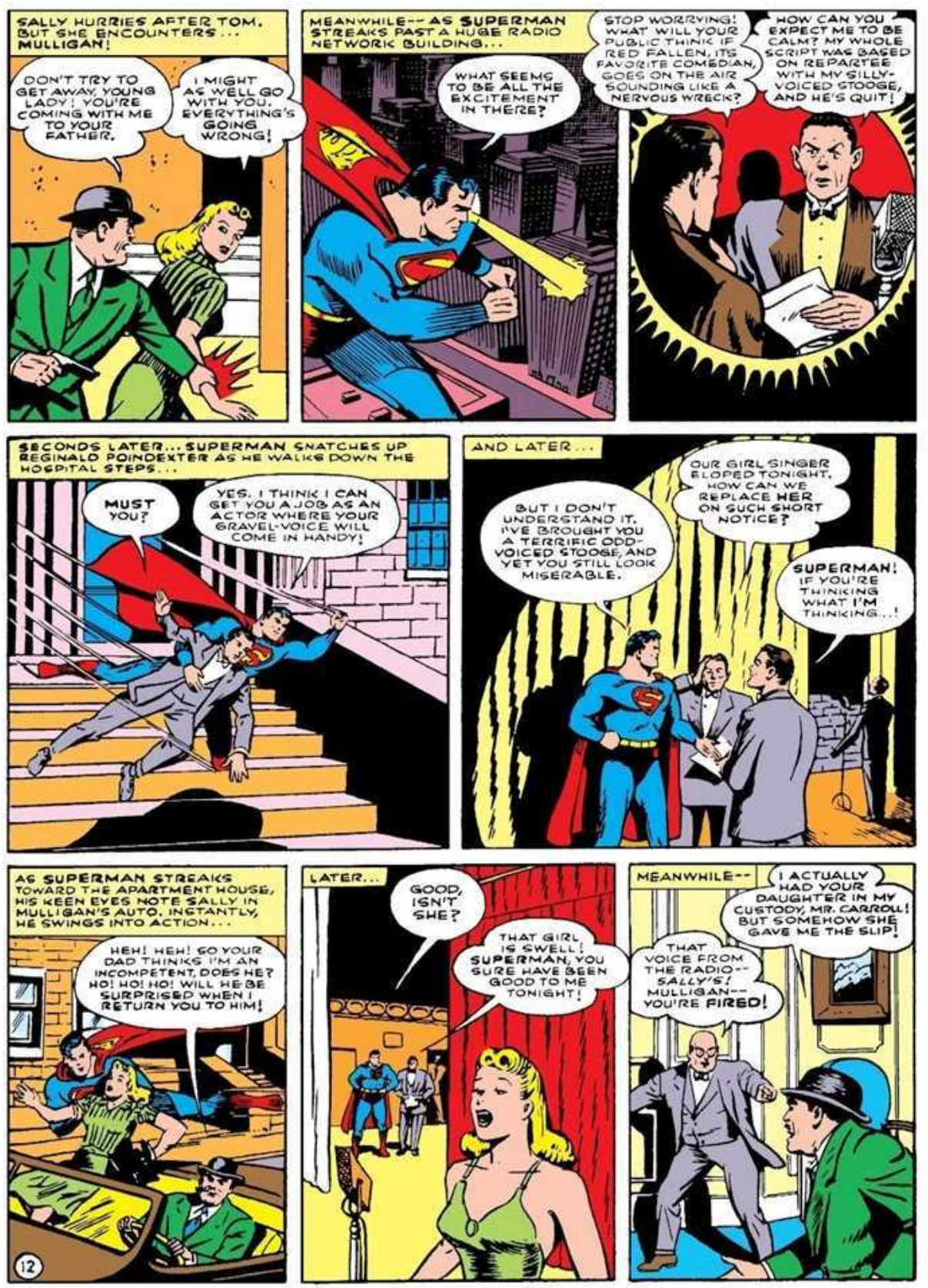

SALLY INTRODUCES SUPERMAN TO EACH OF HER TALENTED FRIENDS...
AS YOU CAN SEE, PETER PENN IS THE ARTIST.
DISREGARD THE SKETCHES. THEY ARE A FEW HUMOROUS ITEMS I DASHED OFF FOR FUN. BUT THE PAINTING--AH, I REGARD IT AS MY MASTERPIECE!
"TO BE--OR NOT TO BE! AH--THAT IS THE QUESTION...!"
AND REGINALD POINDEXTER IS THE ACTOR, I PRESUME!
YES! ISN'T HIS PROFILE GRAND?
PLEASE DON'T READ ANY OF THESE SCRIPTS, SUPERMAN! WHAT I WOULD LIKE YOU TO READ IS MY BOOK, "THE GALAXY"--MY CONTRIBUTION TO LITERATURE. IT'S ACTUALLY BEEN ACCEPTED!
SOME DAY THE NAME OF E.J. CALKINS WILL BE FAMOUS!
BUT MEANWHILE WE ALL CHIPPED IN TO PAY THE PUBLISHER TO PUBLICIZE THE BOOK--AND WE'VE SEEN NO ACTION YET!
AS A RESULT OF SALLY'S PRODDING, TOM CHESTER, THE COMPOSER, RELUCTANTLY PLAYS A PORTION OF A SYMPHONY HE HAS WRITTEN...
THAT'S GOOD!
IF ONLY CRAKEWSKI WOULD AGREE WITH YOU!
TOM HAS BEEN TRYING TO GET CRAKEWSKI, CONDUCTOR OF THE METROPOLIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, TO LOOK AT IT, BUT HE CAN'T EVEN GET NEAR THE GREAT MAN!
REMEMBER TO WRITE THAT LETTER!
AT ONCE! AND THANKS FOR BEING SO UNDERSTANDING!
SHORTLY AFTER...OUTSIDE A NEARBY POST OFFICE...
GOOD GRIEF! SALLY'S IN THERE...WAITING IN LINE FOR POSTAGE... BEHIND NONE OTHER THAN... MULLIGAN!!
BEG PARDON, MISS, BUT YOUR FACE LOOKS FAMILIAR.
WELL, YOURS DOESN'T--BUT YOUR MANNERS ARE!
STAMPS
POST ORDERS
THEN--AS MULLIGAN TURNS AWAY AGAIN, REBUFFED--A SUDDEN FLASH OF RECOGNITION...
(*-IT... IT'S HER! THE CARROLL GIRL!!-*)
7

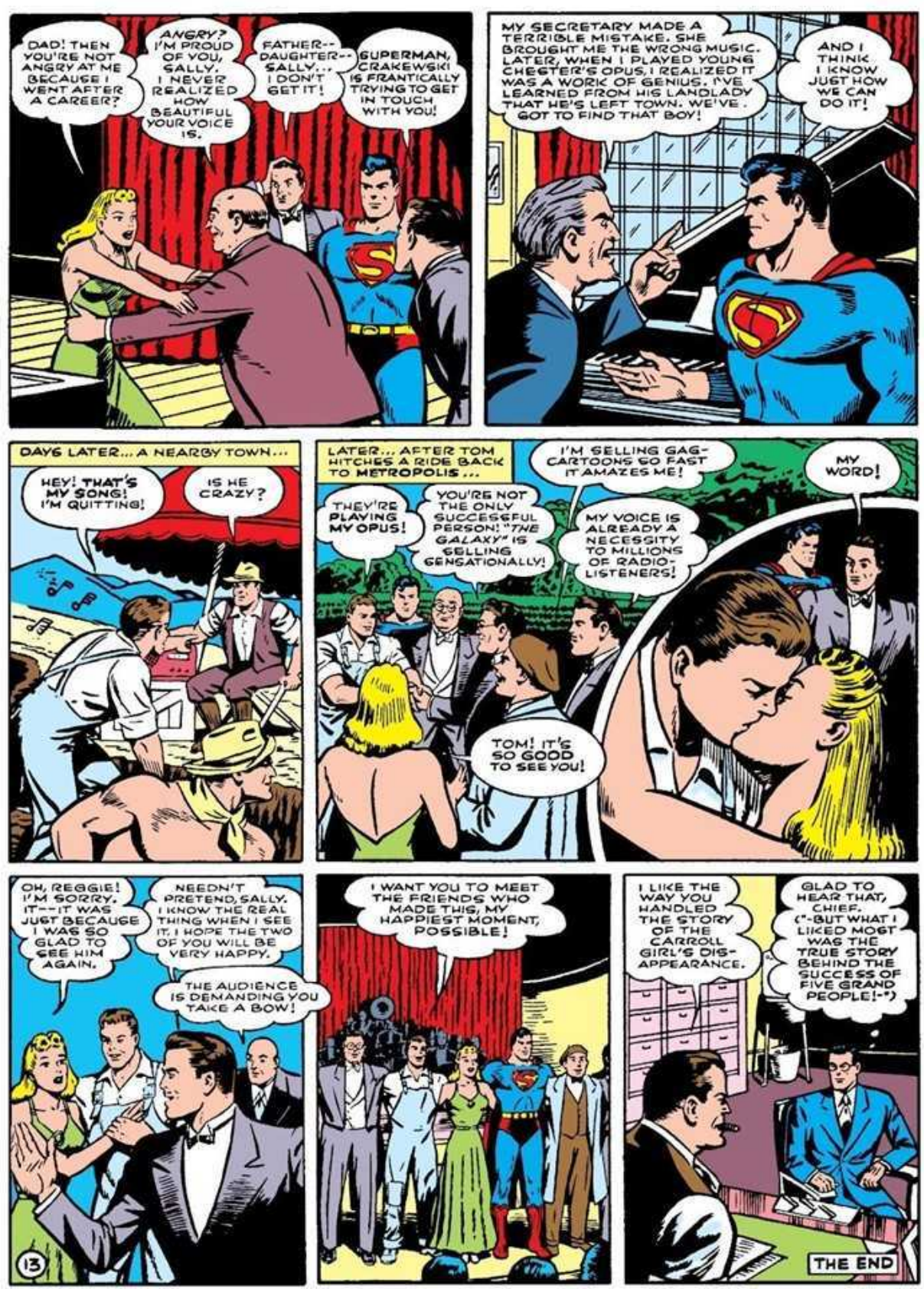
AS MULLIGAN WHIRLS TO SEIZE SALLY, A COSTUMED FIGURE STREAKS INTO THE POST OFFICE, SNATCHES UP THE GIRL, THEN SPEEDS OUT AGAIN SO SWIFTLY THAT NO ONE WITNESSES THE OCCURRENCE...
("-LET'S GO!-")
STAMPS
WHA--?! YOU'RE NOT HER!
WHY, YOU HORRID LITTLE BEAST!
SUPERMAN! BUT WHY THE RUSH ACT?
THAT MAN BEFORE YOU WAS MULLIGAN, A DETECTIVE HIRED BY YOUR FATHER TO LOCATE YOU. I'LL MAIL THE LETTER FOR YOU.
NEXT DAY... IN THE OFFICES OF SMITH & SMITH...
I'M FROM THE DAILY PLANET. I'VE HEARD THAT E. J. CALKINS HAS ADVANCED YOU SOME MONEY TOWARD THE PUBLICATION OF HIS NOVEL. UNLESS YOU WANT UNFAVORABLE PUBLICITY, YOU'D BETTER GET THAT VOLUME OFF THE PRESSES!
(COUGH) ER--BY A STRANGE COINCIDENCE THE BOOK WAS JUST ABOUT TO BE PRINTED.
YOU'LL HAVE A COPY IN THE MORNING, MR. KENT.
AFTER CLARK DEPARTS...
BLAST THAT REPORTER! NOW WE'LL HAVE TO PUBLISH THE BOOK. TELEPHONE OUR PRINTER.
FORTUNATELY, THE MANUSCRIPT HAS BEEN SET UP IN TYPE. WE'LL RUN OFF ONLY A FEW COPIES... THE BOOK WILL ACTUALLY NEVER REACH THE BOOK STORES!
OVERHEARING THE CONVERSATION, CLARK CHANGES TO HIS SUPERMAN COSTUME, STREAKS TO THE PRINTER, AND AS THE FOREMAN PREPARES TO SHUT OFF THE PRESSES...
NO YOU DON'T! THOSE PRESSES KEEP RUNNING AS LONG AS I WANT!
S-SUPERMAN!
GRASPING THE WHEELS WHICH PROPEL THE PRESSES, SUPERMAN WHIRLS THEM FASTER AND FASTER, SO THAT VOLUME AFTER VOLUME IS PRINTED AT BLINDING SPEED!
JUST LIKE A BUSY LITTLE BEE!
... AFTER WHICH HE BINDS THE THOUSANDS OF VOLUMES SINGLE-HANDED-- IN MINUTES!
STOP HIM!
THERE JUST AIN'T NO STOPPING HIM! THE GUY'S A HUMAN MACHINE!
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY, MAN? 50,000 COPIES WERE RUN OFF! ARE YOU MAD!?
WE DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE AGAINST SUPERMAN. THE ONLY WAY YOU CAN GET YOUR DOUGH BACK IS TO PUT THE BOOK ON SALE AND PRAY THAT IT SELLS!
8

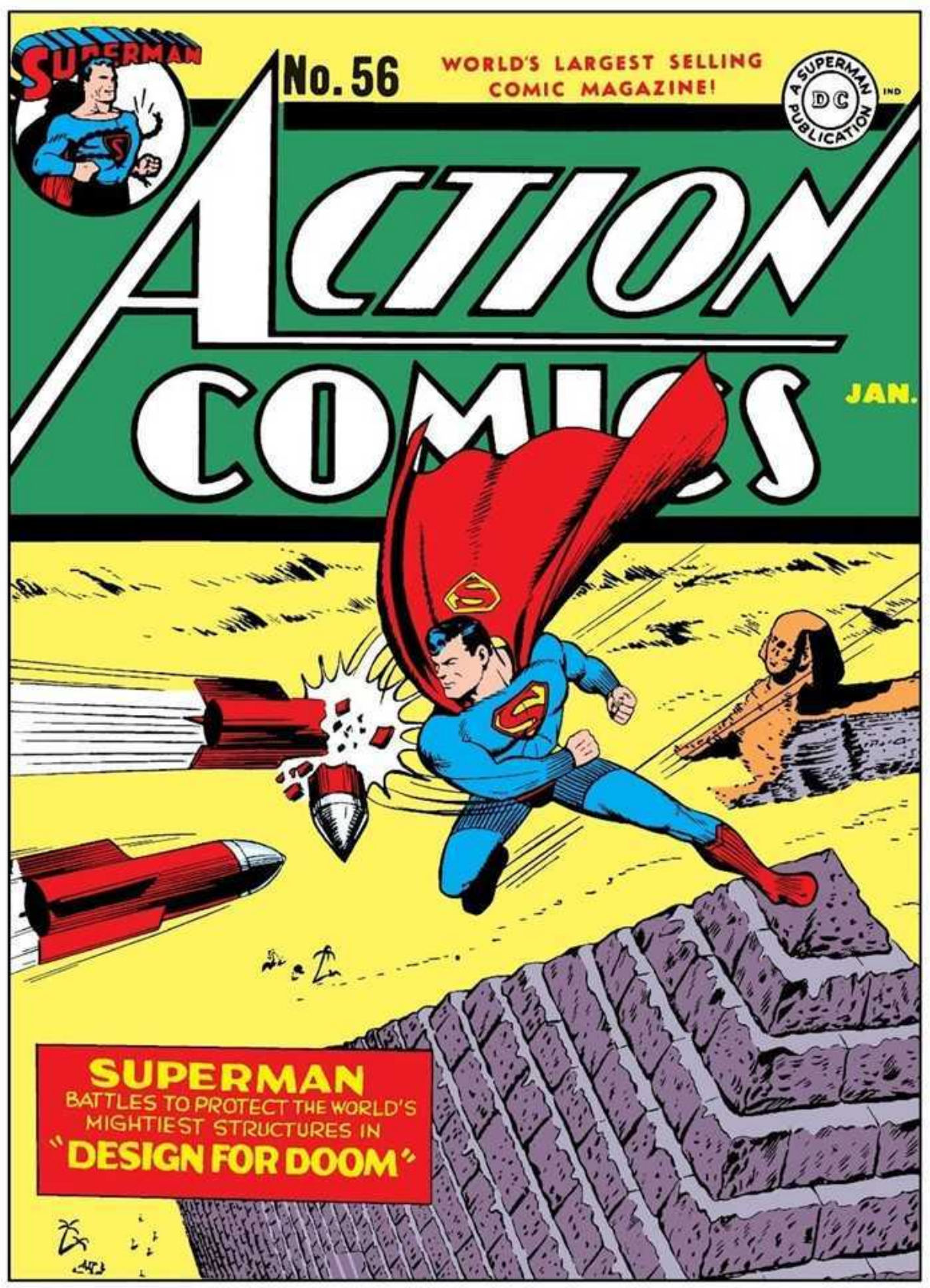
NEXT MORNING...
WASN'T THAT A RAVE REVIEW KENT GAVE ME IN THE MORNING PLANET?
JUST THOUGHT I'D DROP IN, CALKINS, AND CONGRATULATE YOU ON THE APPEARANCE OF "THE GALAXY."
IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I MUST CALL ON DIRECTOR G.G. FRAWLINSON. I HEAR HE'S CASTING.
MAY I GO WITH YOU? I'VE NEVER SEEN A REAL STAGE AUDITION!
SPEEDING AHEAD OF SALLY AND REGINALD TO THE VINSON THEATRE SUPERMAN WITNESSES THE FAMOUS DIRECTOR IN ONE OF HIS TEMPERAMENTAL OUTBURSTS...
GET OUT OF THIS THEATRE... ALL OF YOU! NOT ONE OF YOU HERE CAN ACT!
REGINALD ARRIVES SHORTLY AFTER... AND A NEAT BIT OF VENTRILOQUISM ON SUPERMAN'S PART PREVENTS AN IMMEDIATE DISMISSAL!
GLAD TO SEE YOU. IF YOU'LL KINDLY READ THE PORTION OF THE SCRIPT I'VE INDICATED...!
("- DID I SAY THAT?!-")
("- HE DOESN'T REALIZE THAT'S ACTUALLY MY VOICE!-")
QUICKLY, REGINALD BEGINS RECITING...
YOU HEAR--O MIGHTY ELEMENTS! I DEFY YOU! HA! HA! HA! CRASH IF YOU WISH--ROAR--BUT I LAUGH AT YOU-- HA! HA! HA!
AFTER A FEW DRAMATIC MINUTES...
YOU'RE IN! I WAS SO ENTRANCED BY YOUR ELOQUENCE THAT I COULD SCARCELY MOVE!
OH, REGINALD! HE MEANS YOU'RE HIRED.
NATURALLY!
SALLY, NOW THAT I'M ON THE ROAD TO SUCCESS, WILL YOU MARRY M...
QUICK! INTO THE ALLEY! RUN!
HEY!
NOTING SALLY'S PREDICAMENT, SUPERMAN ERECTS A BRICK WALL SCREENING THE ALLEY'S ENTRANCE AT SUPER-SPEED...
ONE THING'S CERTAIN, I'LL NEVER BE PAID A CENT FOR WORKING OVERTIME!
(PUFF! PUFF!) FUNNY! I COULDA SWORE I SAW THE CARROLL GIRL DART INTO AN ALLEY!
9

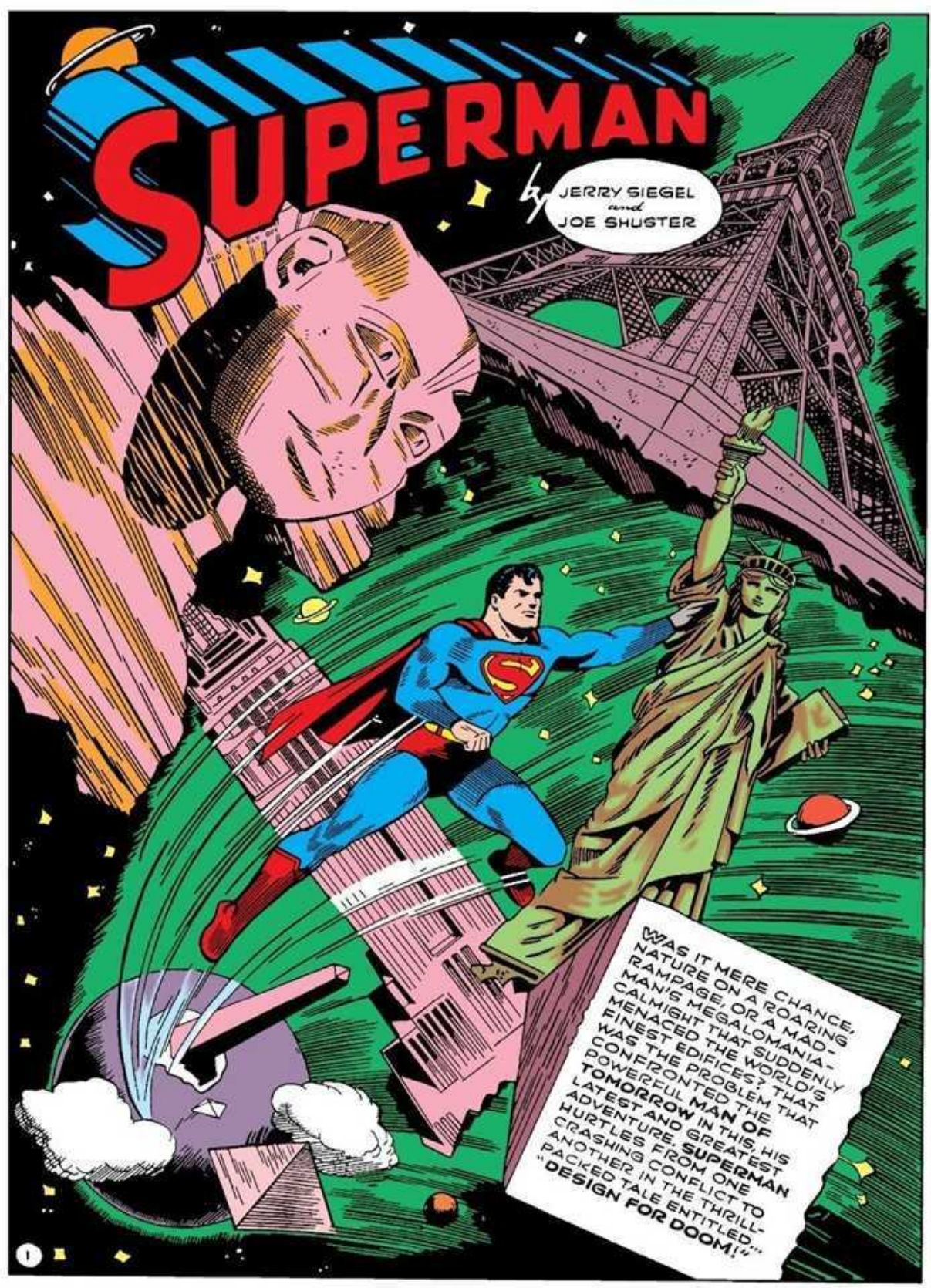
MEANWHILE, AS SALLY RACES ALONG A DOCK... SHE TRIPS...!
HELP!
COMING!
NO SOONER DOES SUPERMAN DISMOUNT THE WALL HE HAD HASTILY ERECTED THAN HE NOTES HIS FRIENDS' DANGER AND SPEEDS TO THE RESCUE...
THAT SHIP--GLIDING TOWARD THE WHARF! IT WILL CRUSH THOSE TWO... UNLESS...
...I KEEP THEM APART!
REGINALD! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I--I MUST HAVE STRUCK SOME DRIFTWOOD.
POINDEXTER SEEMS SERIOUSLY HURT--I'D BETTER GET HIM TO A HOSPITAL QUICKLY!
IF HE'S INJURED, I'LL NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF!
LATER... WHEN REGINALD'S REMAINING FRIENDS REACH THE HOSPITAL....
HIS ONLY MISHAP IS HIS VOICE... HIS THROAT WAS INJURED... HE MAY HAVE AN INCURABLE SPEECH IMPEDIMENT...
OH, NO!
THE WORST THING THAT COULD HAPPEN TO AN ACTOR!
HOW WILL REGGIE TAKE IT?
WE WON'T KNOW UNTIL HE COMES OUT OF THE ETHER!
THAT NIGHT...
PLEASE DON'T WORRY, POLLY. I'M SURE REGINALD WILL TAKE IT LIKE A MAN.
TOM, DEAREST! I--I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO WITHOUT YOU TO COMFORT ME.
EARLY NEXT DAY...
YOU'LL HAVE TO FORGET ABOUT THAT STAGE JOB, YOUR PRESENT GRAVEL-VOICE MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE!
WHAT HURTS THE MOST IS THAT I WAS ABOUT TO PROPOSE, POLLY. NOW YOU'LL NEVER ACCEPT ME.
BUT I DO ACCEPT, REGINALD. ("--I'VE GOT TO! I'M TO BLAME FOR THIS TRAGEDY!--")
AND SO YOU SEE, TOM--I LOVE YOU, BUT I'VE GOT TO MARRY REGINALD NOW--AFTER WHAT I'VE DONE TO HIM, I HAVEN'T THE RIGHT TO TURN HIM DOWN.
I UNDERSTAND.
("--THIS WILL NEVER DO! I'D BETTER TALK IT OVER WITH THE OTHERS.")
10

BUT WHEN SUPERMAN REACHES THE BOARDING HOUSE, HE OBSERVES....
THIS PAINTING--TERRIBLE... NO USE FOOLING MYSELF ANY LONGER! I'M A MISERABLE FLOP!
PERHAPS I'M NOT AN ARTIST, AFTER ALL. I'VE NEVER SOLD EVEN A SINGLE DRAWING... WHY CONTINUE TO FOOL MYSELF?
("-THOSE CARTOONS HE'S SO ASHAMED OF. I'VE AN IDEA THEY'RE WORTH A TRIAL!-")
NEXT-- SUPERMAN PLUCKS CRAIKEWSKI, CONDUCTOR OF THE METROPOLIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, FROM A MOB OF AUTOGRAPH HOUNDS..
I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND.
NOT AT ALL! ANYTHING TO ESCAPE THAT CROWD!
I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU'D EXAMINE THE WORK OF A YOUNG COMPOSER FRIEND OF MINE.
I'VE A PROPOSITION. MY BLUNDERING AGENT ARRANGED FOR THE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA TO PLAY IN A DISTANT CITY TONIGHT. OBVIOUSLY, WE CAN'T KEEP THAT ENGAGEMENT! BUT IF YOU CAN GET US THERE IN TIME FOR THE PERFORMANCE, IT'S A DEAL!
OUR DESTINATION IN SIGHT! FARE FREE!
I NEVER THOUGHT YOU COULD ACTUALLY DO IT!
THE FOLLOWING DAY--AN EXCITED TOM CHESTER PRESENTS HIMSELF TO CRAIKEWSKI'S SECRETARY....
I STILL CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT-- THE GREAT CRAIKEWSKI ASKING ME TO BRING MY OPUS TO HIM.
I'LL TAKE THE MANUSCRIPT TO MR. CRAIKEWSKI.
CRAIKEWSKI ATTEMPTS TO PLAY THE MUSIC HIS SECRETARY HAS BROUGHT TO HIM...
THAT'S ENOUGH! THIS MUSIC IS TERRIBLE!
LATER--RETURNING TO THE BOARDING HOUSE, A BITTER TOM HASTILY PACKS HIS THINGS...
CRAIKEWSKI --TURNED YOU DOWN!
YES--AND NOW I WANT TO GET AS FAR AWAY FROM THIS TOWN AS I CAN... AND FORGET THE SILLY IDEA THAT I COULD BE A COMPOSER OF MUSIC!
11


SALLY HURRIES AFTER TOM. BUT SHE ENCOUNTERS... MULLIGAN!
DON'T TRY TO GET AWAY, YOUNG LADY! YOU'RE COMING WITH ME TO YOUR FATHER.
I MIGHT AS WELL GO WITH YOU. EVERYTHING'S GOING WRONG!
MEANWHILE--AS SUPERMAN STREAKS PAST A HUGE RADIO NETWORK BUILDING...
WHAT SEEMS TO BE ALL THE EXCITEMENT IN THERE?
STOP WORRYING! WHAT WILL YOUR PUBLIC THINK IF RED FALLEN, ITS FAVORITE COMEDIAN, GOES ON THE AIR SOUNDING LIKE A NERVOUS WRECK?
HOW CAN YOU EXPECT ME TO BE CALM? MY WHOLE SCRIPT WAS BASED ON REPARTEE WITH MY SILLY-VOICED STOOGE, AND HE'S QUIT!
SECONDS LATER... SUPERMAN SNATCHES UP REGINALD POINDEXTER AS HE WALKS DOWN THE HOSPITAL STEPS...
MUST YOU?
YES. I THINK I CAN GET YOU A JOB AS AN ACTOR WHERE YOUR GRAVEL-VOICE WILL COME IN HANDY!
AND LATER...
BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT. I'VE BROUGHT YOU A TERRIFIC ODD-VOICED STOOGE, AND YET YOU STILL LOOK MISERABLE.
OUR GIRL SINGER ELOPED TONIGHT. HOW CAN WE REPLACE HER ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE?
SUPERMAN! IF YOU'RE THINKING WHAT I'M THINKING...!
AS SUPERMAN STREAKS TOWARD THE APARTMENT HOUSE, HIS KEEN EYES NOTE SALLY IN MULLIGAN'S AUTO. INSTANTLY, HE SWINGS INTO ACTION...
HEH! HEH! SO YOUR DAD THINKS I'M AN INCOMPETENT, DOES HE? HO! HO! HO! WILL HE BE SURPRISED WHEN I RETURN YOU TO HIM!
LATER...
GOOD, ISN'T SHE?
THAT GIRL IS SWELL! SUPERMAN, YOU SURE HAVE BEEN GOOD TO ME TONIGHT!
MEANWHILE--
I ACTUALLY HAD YOUR DAUGHTER IN MY CUSTODY, MR. CARROLL! BUT SOMEHOW SHE GAVE ME THE SLIP!
THAT VOICE FROM THE RADIO--SALLY'S! MULLIGAN--YOU'RE FIRED!
12


DAD! THEN YOU'RE NOT ANGRY AT ME BECAUSE I WENT AFTER A CAREER?
ANGRY? I'M PROUD OF YOU, SALLY. I NEVER REALIZED HOW BEAUTIFUL YOUR VOICE IS.
FATHER--DAUGHTER--SALLY... I DON'T GET IT!
SUPERMAN, CRAKEWSKI IS FRANTICALLY TRYING TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU!
MY SECRETARY MADE A TERRIBLE MISTAKE. SHE BROUGHT ME THE WRONG MUSIC. LATER, WHEN I PLAYED YOUNG CHESTER'S OPUS, I REALIZED IT WAS A WORK OF GENIUS. I'VE LEARNED FROM HIS LANDLADY THAT HE'S LEFT TOWN. WE'VE GOT TO FIND THAT BOY!
AND I THINK I KNOW JUST HOW WE CAN DO IT!
DAYS LATER... A NEARBY TOWN...
HEY! THAT'S MY SONG! I'M QUITTING!
IS HE CRAZY?
LATER... AFTER TOM HITCHES A RIDE BACK TO METROPOLIS...
I'M SELLING GAG-CARTOONS SO FAST IT AMAZES ME!
MY WORD!
THEY'RE PLAYING MY OPUS!
YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY SUCCESSFUL PERSON! "THE GALAXY" IS SELLING SENSATIONALLY!
MY VOICE IS ALREADY A NECESSITY TO MILLIONS OF RADIO-LISTENERS!
TOM! IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU!
OH, REGGIE! I'M SORRY, IT--IT WAS JUST BECAUSE I WAS SO GLAD TO SEE HIM AGAIN.
NEEDN'T PRETEND, SALLY. I KNOW THE REAL THING WHEN I SEE IT. I HOPE THE TWO OF YOU WILL BE VERY HAPPY.
THE AUDIENCE IS DEMANDING YOU TAKE A BOW!
I WANT YOU TO MEET THE FRIENDS WHO MADE THIS, MY HAPPIEST MOMENT, POSSIBLE!
I LIKE THE WAY YOU HANDLED THE STORY OF THE CARROLL GIRL'S DISAPPEARANCE.
GLAD TO HEAR THAT, CHIEF. (*-BUT WHAT I LIKED MOST WAS THE TRUE STORY BEHIND THE SUCCESS OF FIVE GRAND PEOPLE!-*)
THE END
13

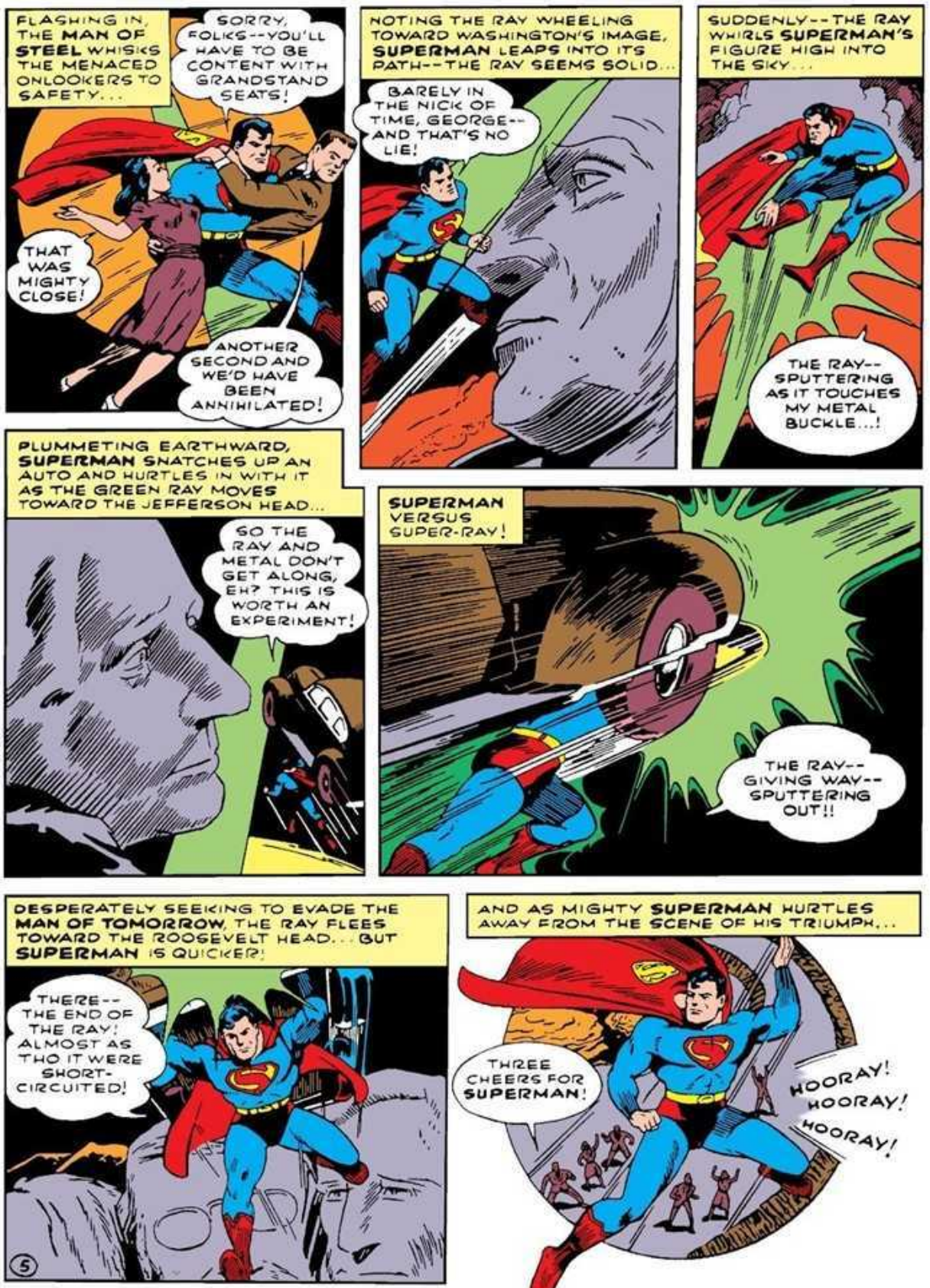

SUPERMAN
No. 56
WORLD'S LARGEST SELLING COMIC MAGAZINE!
A SUPERMAN PUBLICATION
DC
IND
ACTION COMICS
JAN.
SUPERMAN
BATTLES TO PROTECT THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST STRUCTURES IN
"DESIGN FOR DOOM"

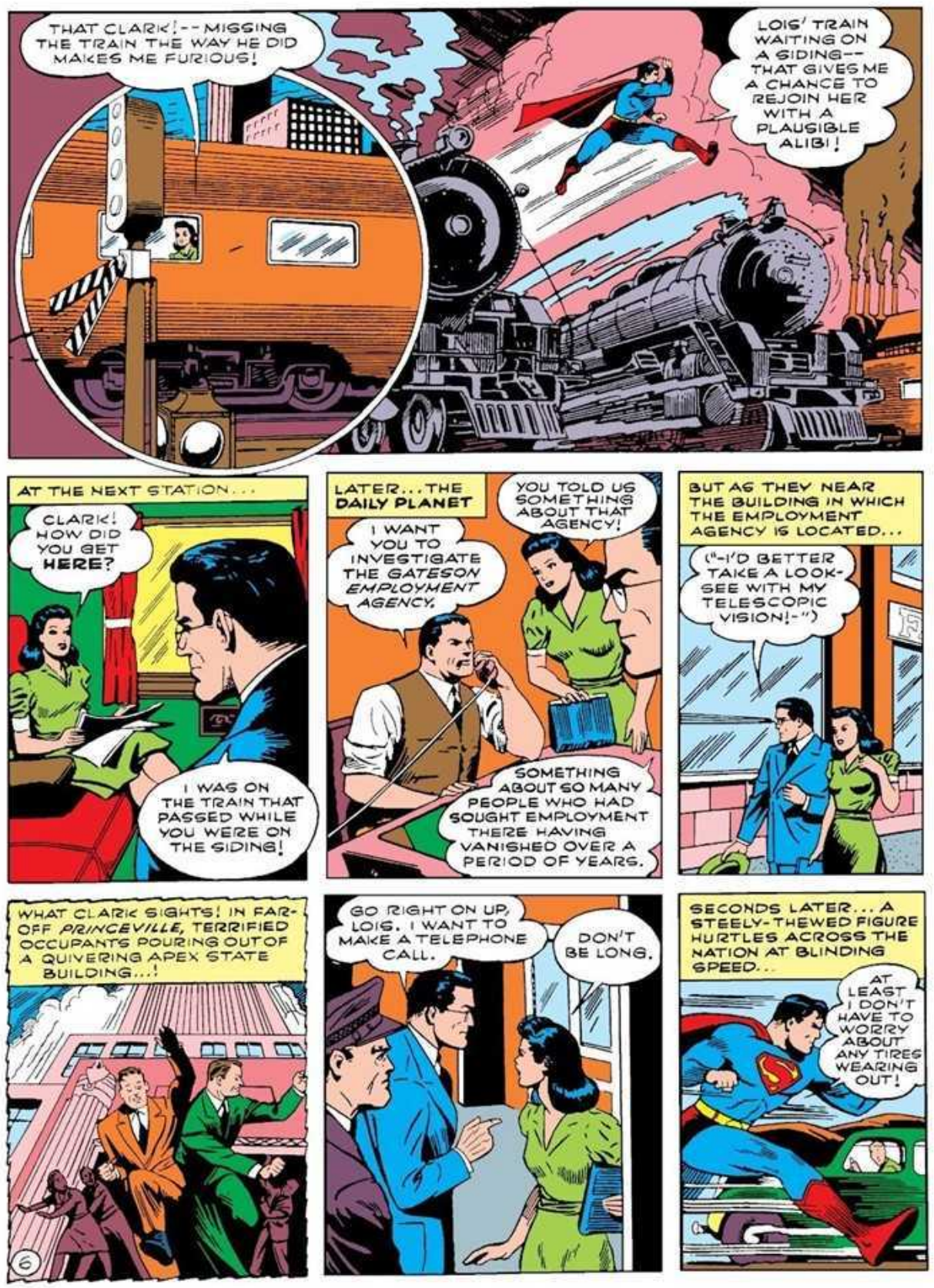

SUPERMAN
by JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
WAS IT MERE CHANCE, NATURE ON A ROARING RAMPAGE, OR A MAD-MAN'S MEGALOMANIA-CALMIGHT THAT SUDDENLY MENACED THE WORLD'S FINEST EDIFICES? THAT WAS THE PROBLEM THAT CONFRONTED THE POWERFUL MAN OF TOMORROW IN THIS, HIS LATEST AND GREATEST ADVENTURE. SUPERMAN HURTLES FROM ONE CRASHING CONFLICT TO ANOTHER IN THE THRILL-PACKED TALE ENTITLED... "DESIGN FOR DOOM!"
1

CLARK AND LOIS HAVE JUST FINISHED A WEEK'S STAY IN WASHINGTON, D.C.....
WELL, LOIS--NOW THAT WE'VE FILED OUR STORY DESCRIBING WARTIME WASHINGTON, WHAT SAY WE HURRY BACK TO METROPOLIS?
NOT JUST YET, CLARK. FIRST THERE'S A LONG-STANDING AMBITION OF MINE I WANT TO FULFILL.
THRILLING, ISN'T IT? THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT!
ALL 555 FEET OF IT! ("-THE SKY OVERHEAD--DARKENING...!-")
SUDDENLY--THUNDER CRASHES--JAGGED LIGHTNING BLADES THRU THE HEAVENS...
UNNOTICED BY LOIS, CLARK PEERS SKYWARD...
("-SOMETHING UNTOWARD GOING ON UP THERE!-")
WHAT HIS ASTOUNDING TELESCOPIC VISION PERCEIVES--A MASS OF HAILSTONES, EACH HAILSTONE THE SIZE OF A GIANT BOULDER, CRASHING DOWN...!
THE FIRST OF THE HAILSTONES NARROWLY MISSES THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT....
...AND CRASHES TO THE STREET...!
LOIS!
CLARK! LOOK OUT!
2

SHE'S ALL RIGHT. JUST FAINTED. --BUT UP THERE...!
DOWN TOWARD THE HUGE OBELISK HURTLES A LONG LINE OF BOULDER-SIZED HAIL-STONES...
UP THE SIDE OF THE MIGHTY MONUMENT STREAKS CLARK KENT, SWITCHING TO THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL MAN...
MAKE WAY FOR THE EXPRESS!
SUPERMAN REACHES THE APEX OF THE COLOSSAL STRUCTURE JUST AS ANOTHER HAILSTONE IS ABOUT TO SCORE A BULL'S-EYE...!
HERE'S WHERE YOU GET A BREAK!
AS THE HAIL-STONES POUR DOWN IN AN INCREASING FLOOD, SUPERMAN SMASHES THEM ASIDE, INTO A NEARBY LAKE, WITH MACHINE-LIKE PRECISION...
KEEP 'EM FLYING!
BUT AS THE LAST OF THE BOULDERS ESCAPES HIM AND HURTLES DOWN TOWARD LOIS' UNCONSCIOUS BODY,...
HM-MM! THIS CALLS FOR A SUPER-SPECIAL MANEUVER!
BEFORE THE HAILSTONE CAN STRIKE EARTH, THE MAN OF STEEL SWISHES PAST IT... THE SUCTION CAUSED BY HIS SPEED DRAWS THE BOULDER AFTER HIM....
C'MON ALONG!
WHIRLING ABRUPTLY, SUPERMAN MEETS THE HAILSTONE IN A HEAD-ON COLLISION!
THIS IS WHAT I CALL USING MY HEAD!
3

A FREAK OF NATURE. FORTUNATELY, SUPERMAN ATTENDED TO IT.
WH-WHAT HAPPENED?
ON THE TRAIN BOUND FOR METROPOLIS...
ISN'T IT GRAND TO HAVE A SUPER-DOOPER SNOOPER LIKE SUPERMAN TO LOOK AFTER US?
SOMETIMES I WONDER WHY HE TAKES SUCH AN INTEREST IN US?
AS THE TRAIN PAUSES AT A STATION...
BE A GOOD FELLA AND TELEGRAPH THIS TO THE DAILY PLANET FOR ME.
OKAY!
TELEGRAPH CO.
BUT AS CLARK COMPLETES HIS ERRAND....
THAT RADIO BROADCAST MY SUPER-ACUTE EARS HAVE PICKED UP--IT INTERESTS ME!
OFFICE
NEWS FLASH! GREEN RAY IN VICINITY OF RUSHMORE MEMORIAL CAUSING GREAT APPREHENSION!
DELIBERATELY, CLARK MISSES THE TRAIN...SECONDS LATER, TRANSFORMED TO HIS ALTER-IDENTITY, SUPERMAN WHIZZES ACROSS THE NATION TOWARD THE BLACK HILLS OF SOUTH DAKOTA...
LOIS! I--(PUFF)--I CAN'T CATCH UP!
AS HE NEARS HIS OBJECTIVE, A SHRINE IN GRANITE OF AMERICA'S GREAT PRESIDENTS...
THAT RAY--DARKENING... DESTROYING THE ROCK IT TOUCHES... MENACING THE ONLOOKERS!
4

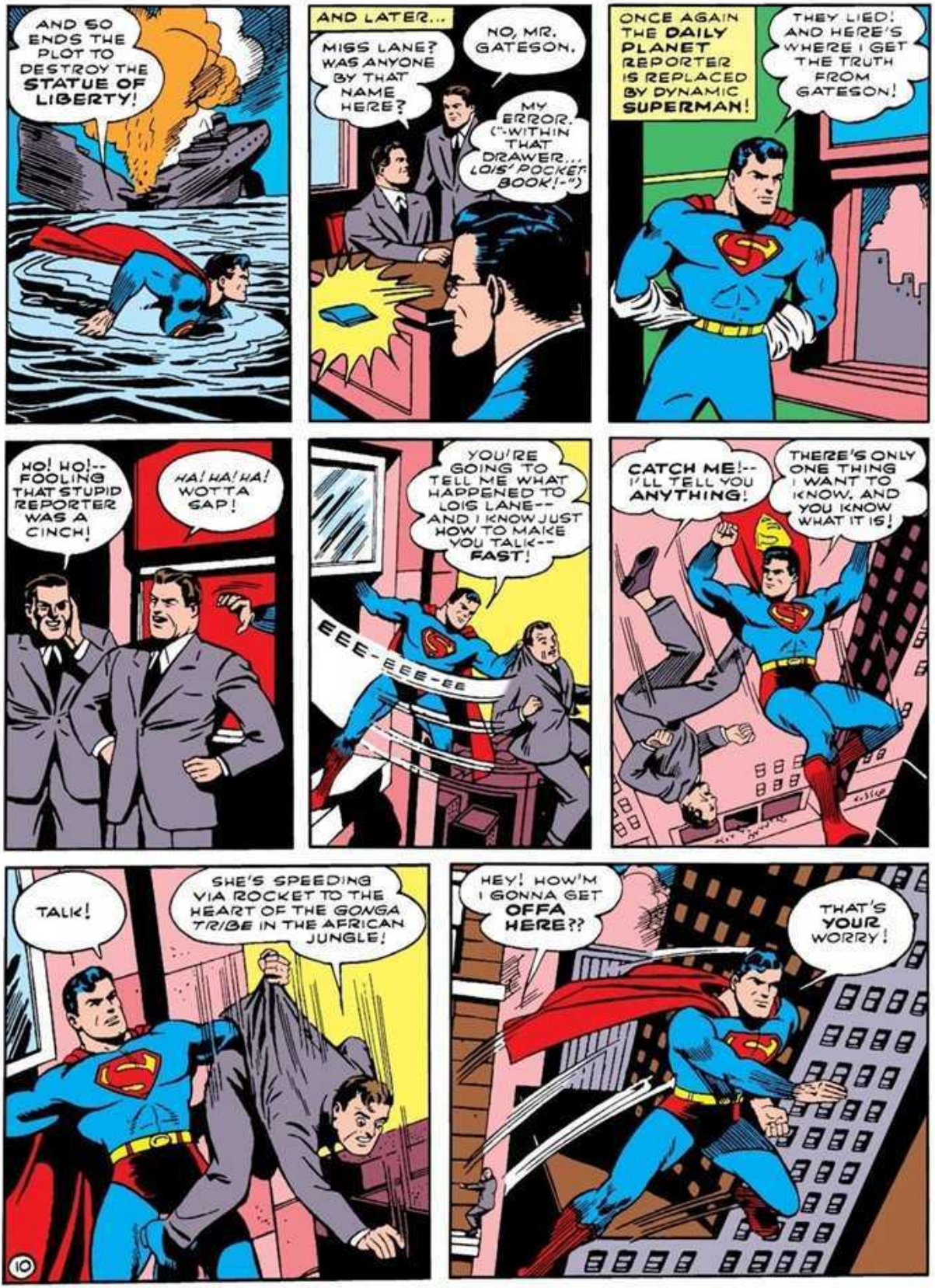

FLASHING IN, THE MAN OF STEEL WHISKS THE MENACED ONLOOKERS TO SAFETY...
SORRY, FOLKS--YOU'LL HAVE TO BE CONTENT WITH GRANDSTAND SEATS!
THAT WAS MIGHTY CLOSE!
ANOTHER SECOND AND WE'D HAVE BEEN ANNIHILATED!
NOTING THE RAY WHEELING TOWARD WASHINGTON'S IMAGE, SUPERMAN LEAPS INTO ITS PATH--THE RAY SEEMS SOLID...
BARELY IN THE NICK OF TIME, GEORGE--AND THAT'S NO LIE!
SUDDENLY--THE RAY WHIRLS SUPERMAN'S FIGURE HIGH INTO THE SKY...
THE RAY--SPUTTERING AS IT TOUCHES MY METAL BUCKLE...!
PLUMMETING EARTHWARD, SUPERMAN SNATCHES UP AN AUTO AND HURTLES IN WITH IT AS THE GREEN RAY MOVES TOWARD THE JEFFERSON HEAD...
SO THE RAY AND METAL DON'T GET ALONG, EH? THIS IS WORTH AN EXPERIMENT!
SUPERMAN VERSUS SUPER-RAY!
THE RAY--GIVING WAY--SPUTTERING OUT!!
DESPERATELY SEEKING TO EVADE THE MAN OF TOMORROW, THE RAY FLEES TOWARD THE ROOSEVELT HEAD... BUT SUPERMAN IS QUICKER!
THERE--THE END OF THE RAY! ALMOST AS THO IT WERE SHORT-CIRCUITED!
AND AS MIGHTY SUPERMAN HURTLES AWAY FROM THE SCENE OF HIS TRIUMPH...
THREE CHEERS FOR SUPERMAN!
HOORAY!
HOORAY!
HOORAY!
5


THAT CLARK!--MISSING THE TRAIN THE WAY HE DID MAKES ME FURIOUS!
LOIS' TRAIN WAITING ON A SIDING--THAT GIVES ME A CHANCE TO REJOIN HER WITH A PLAUSIBLE ALIBI!
AT THE NEXT STATION...
CLARK! HOW DID YOU GET HERE?
I WAS ON THE TRAIN THAT PASSED WHILE YOU WERE ON THE SIDING!
LATER...THE DAILY PLANET
I WANT YOU TO INVESTIGATE THE GATESON EMPLOYMENT AGENCY.
YOU TOLD US SOMETHING ABOUT THAT AGENCY!
SOMETHING ABOUT SO MANY PEOPLE WHO HAD SOUGHT EMPLOYMENT THERE HAVING VANISHED OVER A PERIOD OF YEARS.
BUT AS THEY NEAR THE BUILDING IN WHICH THE EMPLOYMENT AGENCY IS LOCATED...
("-I'D BETTER TAKE A LOOK-SEE WITH MY TELESCOPIC VISION!-")
WHAT CLARK SIGHTS! IN FAR-OFF PRINCEVILLE, TERRIFIED OCCUPANTS POURING OUT OF A QUIVERING APEX STATE BUILDING...!
GO RIGHT ON UP, LOIS. I WANT TO MAKE A TELEPHONE CALL.
DON'T BE LONG.
SECONDS LATER... A STEELY-THEWED FIGURE HURTLES ACROSS THE NATION AT BLINDING SPEED...
AT LEAST I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ANY TIRES WEARING OUT!
6

THE AMAZING MAN OF TOMORROW COVERS CITIES, COUNTIES, STATES--IN MINUTES. AND AS HE FINALLY NEARS HIS DESTINATION...
A HIGH EAR-SHATTERING NOTE RINGING CONTINUOUSLY! THAT'S WHY THE BUILDING IS SHAKING! SYMPATHETIC VIBRATION! IF KEPT UP LONG ENOUGH, THE SKY-SCRAPER WILL CRASH TO RUINS!
DESPERATELY, SUPERMAN SEEKS TO STEADY THE GREAT STRUCTURE WITH HIS BARE HANDS...
NO USE! THE APEX STATE BUILDING IS DOOMED UNLESS I LOCATE THE SOURCE OF THAT PENETRATING NOTE!
THE MAN OF STEEL'S TELESCOPIC VISION DISCOVERS THE SOURCE OF THE TROUBLE--A HUGE VIBRATING TUNING FORK...
A SLIGHT PAUSE AT THE OBSERVATION ROOF ON THE 86TH FLOOR...
HELP! GET US OFF HERE!
IN A JIFFY!
TIME OUT!
UP THE SIDE OF THE MIGHTY MAN-MADE MONOLITH SCRAMBLES THE INCREDIBLE MAN OF STEEL WITH THE GREATEST OF EASE...
THIS IS ONE WAY TO BECOME SUCCESSFUL--START AT THE BOTTOM AND WORK TO THE TOP!
AND NOW--BACK TO WORK!
7

SUPERMAN GRASPS THE VIBRATING FORK... WITH UNEXPECTED RESULTS....
TH-THIS IS A SW-SW-ELL W-WAY T-TO RE-REDUCE!
AND THEN ONE OF THE STRANGEST BATTLES OF ALL TIME, AS SUPERMAN EXERTS TERRIFIC PRESSURE HE ALONE IS CAPABLE OF...
IT'S SLOWING!
A MIGHTY WRENCH --THEN...
THE END OF YOU!
BUT AS THE MAN OF STEEL IS ABOUT TO DEPART...
CRASHING DOWN TOWARD THE STATUE OF LIBERTY ON BEDLOE'S ISLAND... A MONSTER WAVE!
GOOD GRIEF!
MEANWHILE--ENTERING THE GATES ON EMPLOYMENT AGENCY AND FINDING IT DESERTED, LOIS LOOKS THRU SOME FILES....
WHAT'S THIS? THE AGENCY WAS PAID LARGE OUTRIGHT SUMS FOR EACH MAN SUPPLIED TO "EL-AFRICA". WHY?-- UNLESS THEY WERE SOLD AS SLAVES!
8

SHE WAS SNOOPING, ALL RIGHT! WHO IS SHE, GATESON?
A GIRL REPORTER! SHE MAY HAVE LEARNED TOO MUCH! WE'VE GOT TO GET RID OF HER!
SHORTLY AFTER --BOUND TO A ROCKET-VESSEL, LOIS IS SENT HURTLING SKYWARD...
WE'LL NOTIFY "EL-AFRICA" TO EXPECT HER.
HE'LL SILENCE HER--FOR GOOD!
MEANWHILE-- RACING ACROSS BEDLOE'S ISLAND, THE MAN OF TOMORROW HURTLES UP SQUARELY INTO THE HEART OF THE LOOMING WAVE...
OCEANWARD SWIMS THE MAN OF STEEL AT SO INCREDIBLE A SPEED THAT THE MIGHTY WAVE IS DRAWN IN THE WAKE OF HIS STREAK-ING FIGURE....
PLENTY OF ROOM OUT HERE!
THE WAVE PLOT FAILED! WE'LL HAVE TO RESORT TO THE DECK-GUN!
AND WE WON'T MISS!
A MAN SMASHING BACK THE SHELLS!
THAT'S NO ORDINARY MAN! THAT'S-- SUPERMAN
KEEP FIRING!
I'LL SOON END THAT!
THE DECK-GUN FIRES ITS LAST CHARGE...
9

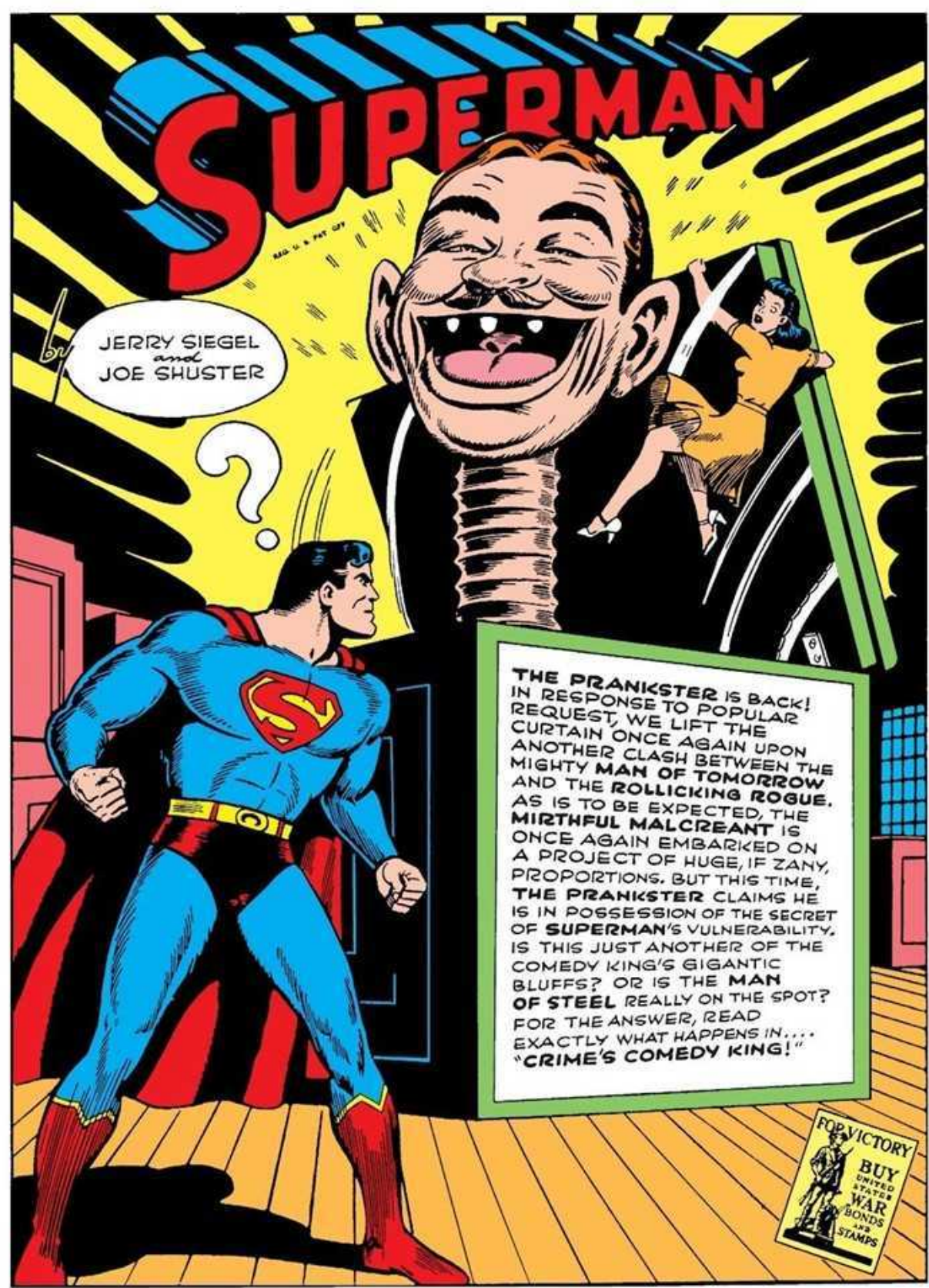

AND SO ENDS THE PLOT TO DESTROY THE STATUE OF LIBERTY!
AND LATER...
MISS LANE? WAS ANYONE BY THAT NAME HERE?
NO, MR. GATESON.
MY ERROR. ("-WITHIN THAT DRAWER... LOIS' POCKET BOOK!-")
ONCE AGAIN THE DAILY PLANET REPORTER IS REPLACED BY DYNAMIC SUPERMAN!
THEY LIED! AND HERE'S WHERE I GET THE TRUTH FROM GATESON!
HO! HO!-- FOOLING THAT STUPID REPORTER WAS A CINCH!
HA! HA! HA! WOT'TA GAP!
YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED TO LOIS LANE-- AND I KNOW JUST HOW TO MAKE YOU TALK-- FAST!
EEE-EEE-EE
CATCH ME!-- I'LL TELL YOU ANYTHING!
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING I WANT TO KNOW, AND YOU KNOW WHAT IT IS!
TALK!
SHE'S SPEEDING VIA ROCKET TO THE HEART OF THE GONGA TRIBE IN THE AFRICAN JUNGLE!
HEY! HOW'M I GONNA GET OFFA HERE??
THAT'S YOUR WORRY!
10

AFRICA --HERE I COME!
MINUTES LATER . . . AS THE DARK CONTINENT APPEARS BELOW . . . .
A SERIES OF RADIO-CONTROLLED BOMBS -- HURTLING TOWARD THE PYRAMIDS!
THRU THE LONG LINE OF BOMBS SMASHES THE MAN OF STEEL, DESTROYING EACH IN TURN . . . .
JUST LIKE FIRE-WORKS!
BUT WHEN THE BATTLE ENDS . . .
WHEW! THE FORCE OF THOSE EXPLOSIONS -- THEY'VE LEFT ME DAZED!
MEANWHILE . . . LOIS HAS REACHED HER DESTINATION.
I RECOGNIZE YOU -- YOU'RE EMIL LORING . . . THE BRILLIANT ARCHITECT-SCIENTIST WHO VANISHED YEARS AGO!
YOUR MEMORY IS REMARKABLE, MISS LANE. I'LL TELL YOU A SENSATIONAL STORY -- ONE YOU WILL NEVER PRINT!
BEHOLD! THE GREATEST ARCHITECTURAL TRIUMPH OF ALL TIME -- AND IT'S MY CREATION!
A MODERN TOWER OF BABEL! IT ALMOST SEEMS TO TOUCH THE CLOUDS! BUT THOSE ENSLAVED MEN -- WHO ARE THEY?
LORING'S STORY: "IT BEGAN FIVE YEARS AGO. SOMETHING ABOUT MY DWARFED SIZE HAD CAUSED ME TO BUILD TREMENDOUS STRUCTURES. BUT ONE DAY I HAD THE GREATEST IDEA OF ALL . . ."
BUT, GENTLEMEN, THIS TOWER I CONTEMPLATE WILL BE THE GREATEST STRUCTURE IN THE WORLD! IT WILL BE AN EVERLASTING MONUMENT TO MY ARCHITECTURAL GENIUS!
FANTASTIC! SILLY! DANGEROUS!
"I TRAVELLED ALL OVER THE COUNTRY -- BUT FOUND IT IMPOSSIBLE TO SECURE A BUILDING PERMIT ANYWHERE. THEN, ONE DAY, NEWSPAPERS FLASHED GLARING HEADLINES -- !"
DAILY O PLANET
FAMED ARCHITECT VANISHES! EXPEDITION LOST IN AFRICA!!
UNKNOWN TO THE WORLD I HAD DELIBERATELY SECLUDED MYSELF HERE IN THE JUNGLE, SEIZED CONTROL OF THE GONGA TRIBE. BETWEEN THE TRIBE AND THE SLAVE LABOR I SECURED THRU AN EMPLOYMENT AGENCY, I MANAGED TO ERECT THIS, THE GREATEST STRUCTURE IN THE PLANET'S HISTORY!
11

THIS MAY BE THE WORLD'S TALLEST BUILDING--BUT THERE ARE OTHER ARCHITECTURAL MARVELS TO RIVAL YOUR OWN CREATION.
BUT THEY NO LONGER EXIST TO MOCK ME WITH THEIR PERFECTION! I'VE DESTROYED THEM ALL WITH SCIENTIFIC ANNIHILATION! COME TO THE TOWER'S TOP--I'LL PROVE IT!
A SWIFT ELEVATOR HURTLES THEM UPWARD...
NO OTHER STRUCTURE SHALL SURVIVE TO RIVAL MY CREATION..
("-HE'S GONE MAD!-")
BUT AS THE SUPER-ARCHITECT PEERS INTO HIS VISION-SCREEN...
THE RUSHMORE MEMORIAL--THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT--AND THE OTHERS! ALL INTACT! I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT!
BUT I DO!
THEN--AS THE PYRAMIDS COME INTO VIEW...
AND THERE'S YOUR ANSWER--SUPERMAN!
I'LL DESTROY HIM!
MY MIND'S CLEARED--OR HAS IT? DO I ACTUALLY SEE A TOWER RISING ABOVE THE CLOUDS AND LOIS ATOP IT?
UNLEASHED BY THE ANGERED ARCHITECT-SCIENTIST, MASSIVE LIGHTNING-BOLTS BOMBARD THE MAN OF TOMORROW....
HOT SPOT!
BUT THO SUPERMAN IS UNHARMED, THE FORCE OF THE BOLTS CAUSES A SLUMBERING VOLCANO TO ERUPT..
AND THE MOST AMBITIOUS EDIFICE OF ALL TIME--BEGINS TO CRUMBLE!
12

NO! THIS CAN'T HAPPEN--MY TOWER--MY BEAUTIFUL CREATION... IT MUSTN'T BE DESTROYED!!!
SUPERMAN! --HELP!!
HELP LORING!
I DON'T SEE HIM!
THE VOLCANO SUBSIDES AS QUICKLY AS IT HAD COME....
HE'S SOMEWHERE BENEATH THE WRECKAGE!
A FITTING MONUMENT FOR THE WORLD'S GREATEST ARCHITECT!
MINUTES LATER...THE FREED SLAVES ARE ON THEIR WAY BACK TO THE NEAREST CIVILIZED TOWN...
I SUPPOSE YOU'RE ANXIOUS TO GET THIS INTO PRINT!
ABSOLUTELY! IT'S ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST NEWS STORIES!
THEN... THE RETURN JOURNEY ACROSS THE OCEAN...
WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PUT ON THAT STEAMER?
BY NO MEANS. YOU'RE MUCH QUICKER.
LATER... THE DAILY PLANET...
HOW DID I SCORE THE SCOOP? BY DILIGENCE, MY BOY!
OF COURSE, YOU HAD A LITTLE AID FROM SUPERMAN?
YES. A LITTLE.
THE END
13

SUPERMAN
No.57
WORLD'S LARGEST SELLING COMIC MAGAZINE!
A SUPERMAN PUBLICATION
DC
INC.
FEB.
ACTION COMICS
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
UP POPS
THE PRANKSTER
SUPERMAN'S
MOST PUZZLING FOE--
IN THE FAST AND
SCREWBALL ADVENTURE
TITLED
"CRIME'S COMEDY KING"

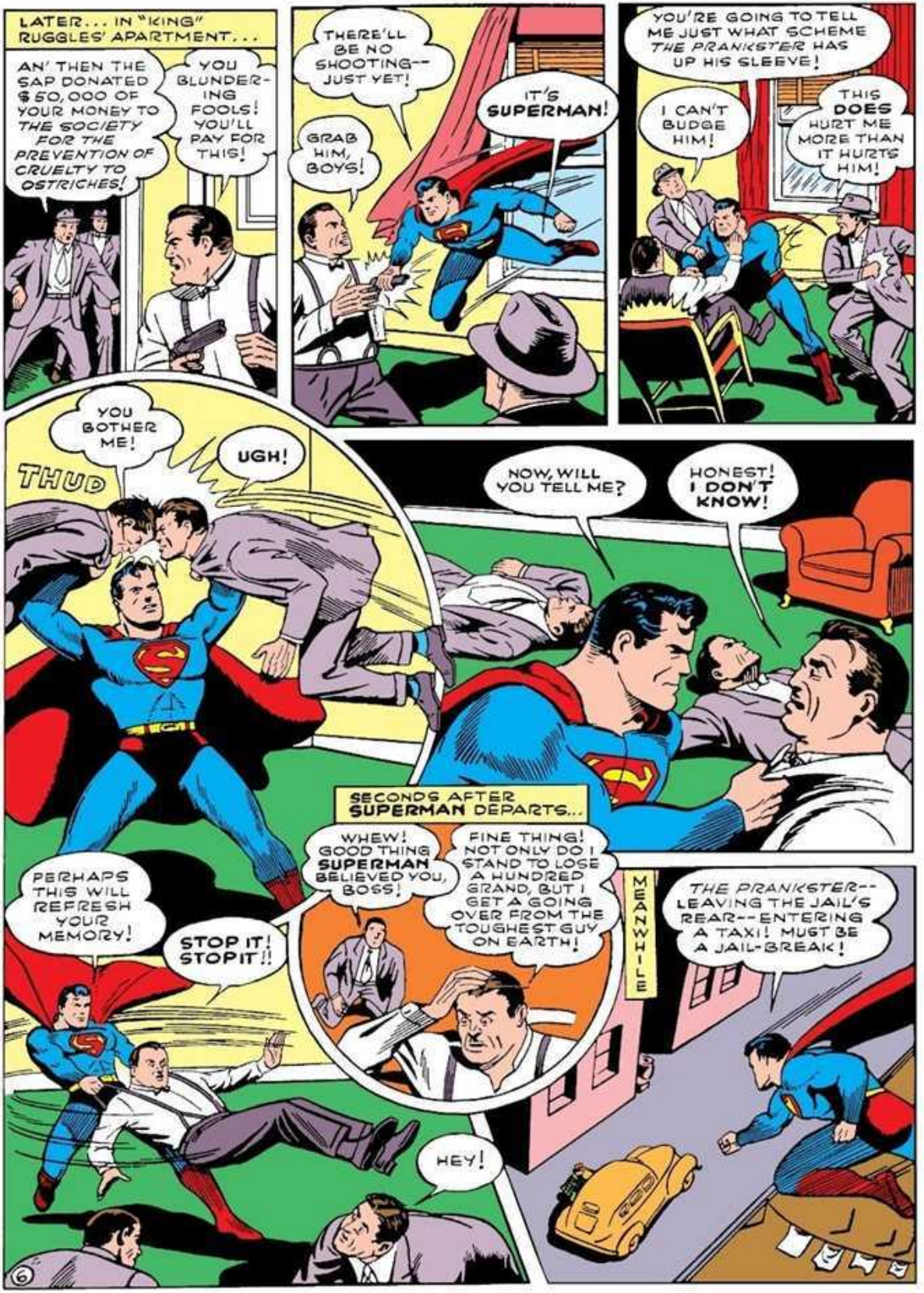

SUPERMAN
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
BY JERRY SIEGEL and JOE SHUSTER
?
THE PRANKSTER IS BACK! IN RESPONSE TO POPULAR REQUEST, WE LIFT THE CURTAIN ONCE AGAIN UPON ANOTHER CLASH BETWEEN THE MIGHTY MAN OF TOMORROW AND THE ROLLICKING ROGUE. AS IS TO BE EXPECTED, THE MIRTHFUL MALCREANT IS ONCE AGAIN EMBARKED ON A PROJECT OF HUGE, IF ZANY, PROPORTIONS. BUT THIS TIME, THE PRANKSTER CLAIMS HE IS IN POSSESSION OF THE SECRET OF SUPERMAN'S VULNERABILITY. IS THIS JUST ANOTHER OF THE COMEDY KING'S GIGANTIC BLUFFS? OR IS THE MAN OF STEEL REALLY ON THE SPOT? FOR THE ANSWER, READ EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENS IN.... "CRIME'S COMEDY KING!"
FOR VICTORY
BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

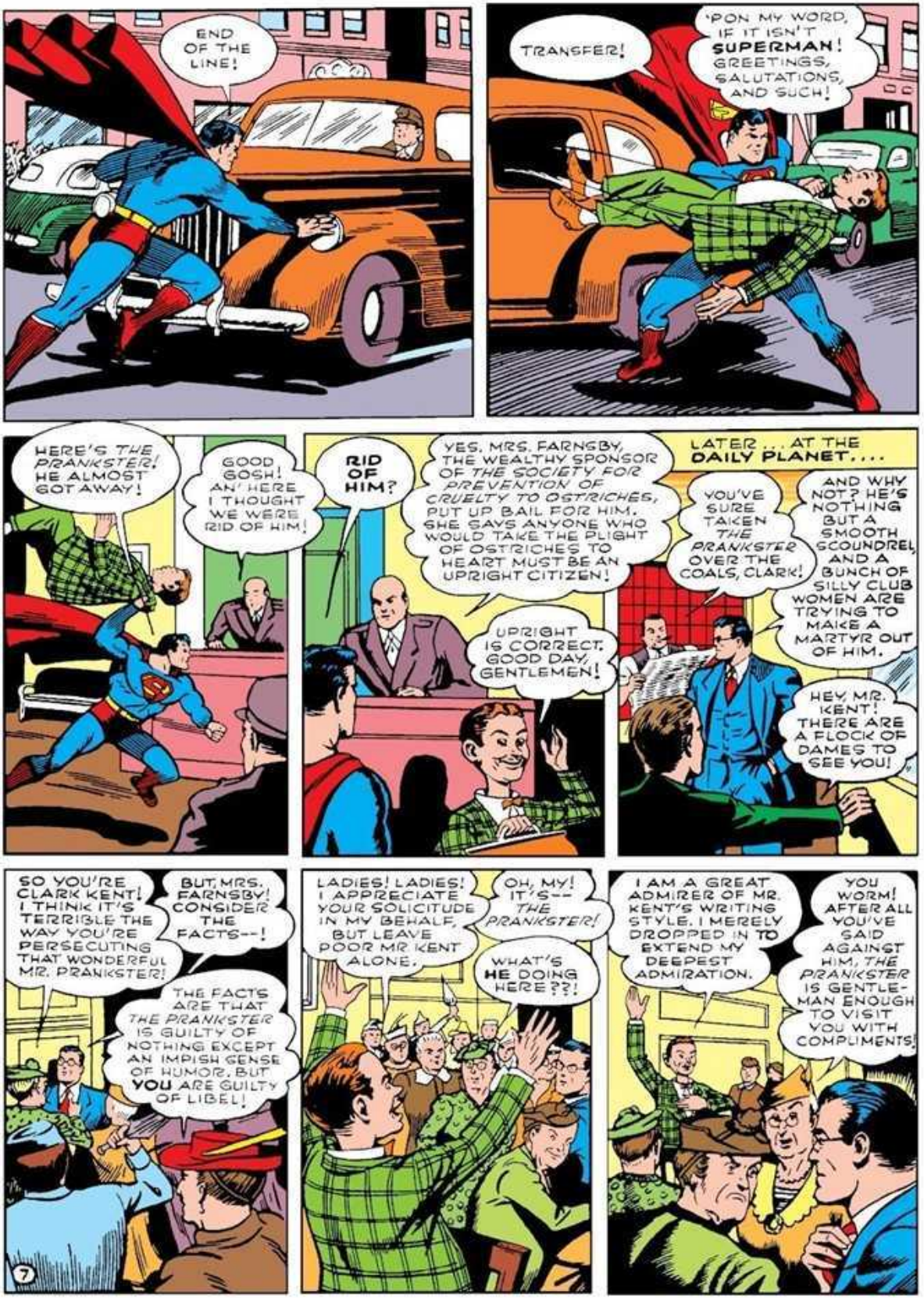
IN THE SWANK APARTMENT OF "KING" RUGGLES, RACKETEER, GAIETY FILLS THE AIR... FOR THE MOB HAS GATHERED TO CELEBRATE THE CRIME BIG SHOT'S BIRTHDAY...
HERE'S ANOTHER GIFT JUST CAME FER YA, BOSS.
DON'T HEAR ANY TICKING. I GUESS IT'S SAFE TO OPEN THE PACKAGE.
THAT'S ODD. ANOTHER BOX!
OPEN IT, CHIEF!
LET'S SEE WHAT'S INSIDE.
THERE IS ANOTHER BOX INSIDE, AND ANOTHER BOX INSIDE THAT ONE. AND MANY OTHERS, EACH ONE SMALLER THAN THE PRECEDING ONE!
I GOT A FUNNY FEELIN' SOMEONE IS TRYIN' TO MAKE ME LOOK LIKE A SAP! IF HE'S ONE OF YOU GUYS, IT'S YOUR LAST PRACTICAL JOKE!
YII-IIPE!!
A JACK-IN-THE-BOX!
NO ONE'S LEAVING UNTIL I LEARN WHO SENT THAT INFERNAL TOY TO ME! AND WHEN I FIND OUT...!
THAT HEAD-- IT'S THE PRANKSTER
AND A NOTE IN TH' BOX!
"IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TRADE $100,000 FOR A MILLION DOLLARS, YOU WILL FIND ME WAITING IN YOUR STUDY. IT'S SIGNED, "THE PRANKSTER"!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT MADMAN FOR YOU, CHIEF!
NO, RED. I'LL ATTEND TO HIM MYSELF.
SECONDS LATER... AS THE RACKETEER ENTERS HIS STUDY....
BOO!!
HEY--!??!
2

COME OUT FROM BEHIND THAT DOOR BEFORE I BLOW YOUR BRAINS OUT!
BUT SUPPOSE I DON'T HAVE ANY BRAINS?
ALIVE, I CAN OFFER YOU A MILLION DOLLARS FOR $100,000. BUT DEAD-- DEAR, DEAR-- I WOULDN'T BE WORTH EVEN A CANCELED POSTAGE STAMP.
OKAY. I'LL OVERLOOK YOUR SO-CALLED ATTEMPTS AT HUMOR.... WHAT'S THE PROPOSITION?
PROPO-SITION? DID YOU SAY, PROPO-SITION?
DON'T YOU REMEMBER? YOU SENT ME A NOTE SAYING YOU COULD GIVE ME A MILLION DOLLARS FOR A HUNDRED GRAND.
I SAID THAT? MY GOOD MAN, ARE YOU POSITIVE YOU'RE NOT MISTAKEN?
YES. YOU SAID THAT! DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE SUFFERING A LOSS OF MEMORY?
STRANGE. THOSE LAPSES OF MEMORY. HM-MM. MY SHOE-LACE IS UNTIED. IF YOU WERE TO TIE IT, PERHAPS MY MEMORY WOULD COME BACK.
THE NERVE OF YOU! DON'T YOU REALIZE WHO I AM? I'M "KING" RUGGLES, A BIG SHOT. I DON'T GO AROUND TYING THE SHOE-LACES OF ANY PUNK WHO ASKS ME!
VERY WELL.. IF YOU'RE NOT WILLING TO HELP RESTORE MY MEMORY, I MAY AS WELL LEAVE.
NO. DON'T GO. I'LL DO IT! ("- I'D LIKE TO WRING HIS NECK. BUT TYING HIS SHOE-LACES IS SMALL SERVICE, IF I REALLY CAN GET MY HANDS ON A MILLION FOR A MEASLY HUNDRED GRAND.-")
WELL-LL-LL... I DON'T KNOW... BUT IF YOU INSIST...
WHAT KIND OF SHOE-LACES ARE THESE?
HO! HO! HO! A COMBINATION OF CHEWING GUM AND GLUE! MY, BUT AREN'T YOU THE GULLIBLE ONE! HA! HA!
3

THAT'S THE LAST STRAW!
RESTRAIN YOURSELF! MY MEMORY HAS COME BACK! GIVE ME $100,000-- AND INSIDE OF ONE MONTH I'LL HAVE INCREASED IT TEN TIMES OVER!
SOUNDS PRETTY GOOD TO ME. BUT HOW WILL YOU DO IT?
THAT, DEAR SIR, IS MY SECRET. REMEMBER, I ALMOST CLEARED MILLIONS IN MY LAST EXPLOIT.
"ALMOST", IS RIGHT. BUT SUPERMAN PUT A CRIMP IN YOUR PLANS. SUPPOSE SUPERMAN GETS ON YOUR TRACK THIS TIME? NO ONE CAN HANDLE THAT TOUGH BABY!
LET SUPERMAN PURSUE ME. ALL HIS STRENGTH AND OTHER SUPER-POWERS WON'T DO HIM ANY GOOD BECAUSE... I KNOW THE SECRET OF HIS VULNERABILITY!
IT'S A DEAL. HERE'S MY CHECK FOR A HUNDRED GRAND.
SIR, YOUR NOBLE TRUST IN ME SHALL NOT GO UNREWARDED! WHEN I THINK OF YOUR GENEROSITY, TEARS RUSH TO MY EYES!
I HAVE BUT ONE STIPULATION. TWO OF MY BOYS-- DUTCH AND RED-- WILL STICK WITH YOU UNTIL I GET THAT MILLION.
TCH! TCH! SO YOU DON'T TRUST ME AFTER ALL!
SHORTLY AFTER... A STRANGE TRIO EMERGES FROM A NEAR-BY BANK...
BUT WHY DID YOU INSIST ON COLLECTING EVERY CENT OF THE CHECK IN CASH?
I LIKE TO HAVE CASH AROUND. INFLATES MY EGO.
I DON'T LIKE IT!
AND MINUTES LATER...
HEY! DO YOU REALIZE WHERE YOU'RE GOING?
SURELY. THE POLICE STATION!
OH, GOLLY! WAIT TILL "ICING" HEARS THIS!
SO HELP ME, CHIEF! I'M NOT LYING! THE GUY CASHES THE CHECK AND WALKS PLUMB INTO A POLICE STATION WITH THE DOUGH!
WHA-AT?!--WHY IN BLAZES DID I EVER LISTEN TO THAT LUNATIC? GET BACK TO THAT STATION! FIND OUT WHAT'S GOIN' ON!
4

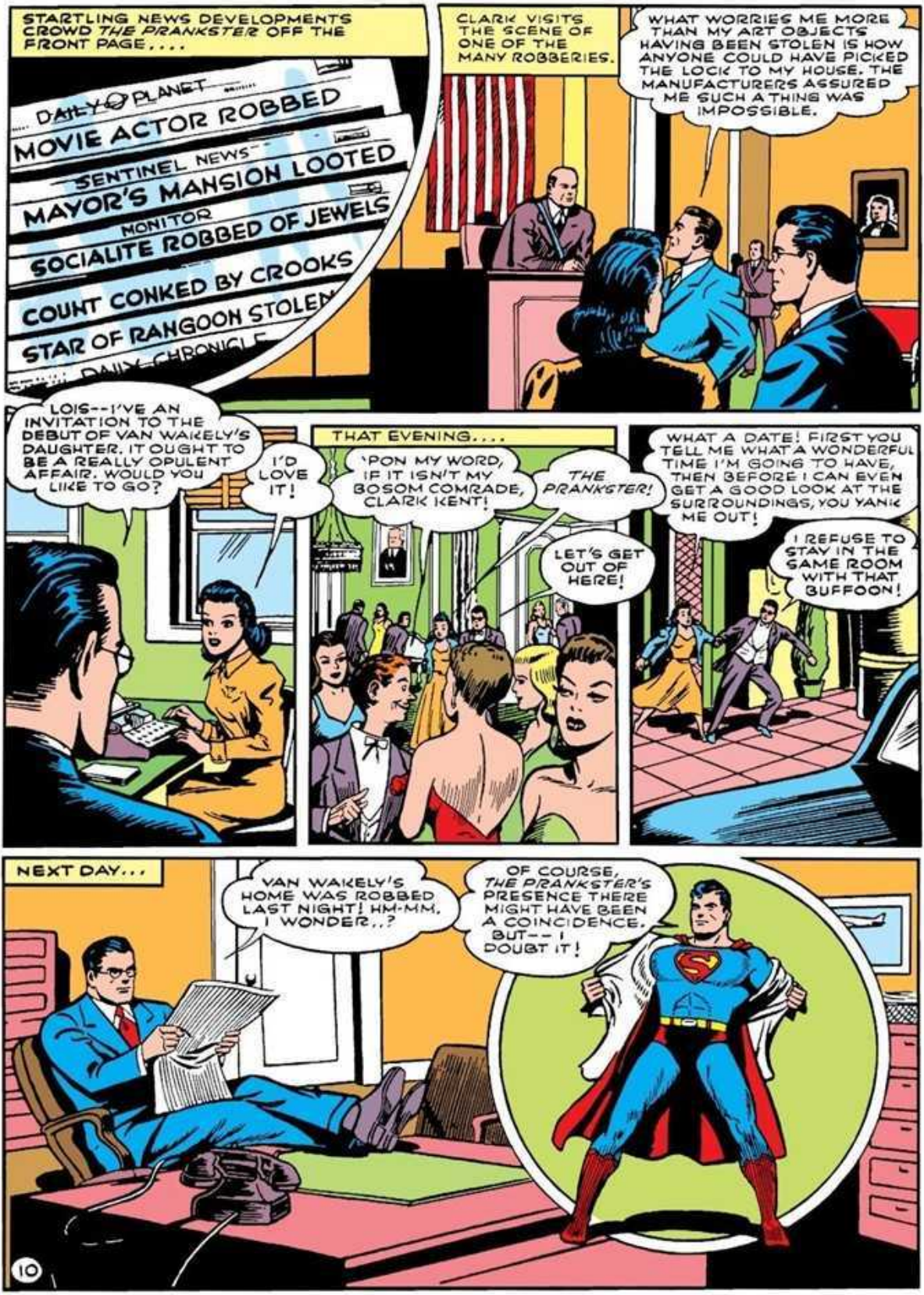
WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
YOU CAN ACCORD ME THE RARE HONOR OF IMPRISONING ME WITHIN YOUR FAIR DUNGEON!
SCRAM! I HAVEN'T ANY TIME TO WASTE ON LUNATICS!
VERY WELL-- IF YOU DON'T WANT TO ARREST THE PRANKSTER, I'LL JUST HAVE TO HIE ME TO A MORE HOSPITABLE ESTABLISHMENT.
THE PRANKSTER!
TCH! TCH! THE WAGES OF POPULARITY!
S-SEE (PUFF) ANYTHING, DUTCH?
THE FOOL'S GONE AN' GIVEN HIMSELF UP!!
THE PRANKSTER --HE JUST WALKED INTO CENTRAL STATION!
THE PRANKSTER --ALIVE! C'MON, CLARK!
SHORTLY AFTER...
WHY DID YOU SURRENDER TO THE POLICE?
WHY? BECAUSE I SUDDENLY SAW THE ERROR OF MY WAYS! I DECIDED TO PAY SOCIETY THE DEBT I OWE IT, AND FOLLOW THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW PATH!
AND HERE IS CONCRETE PROOF OF MY INTENTION TO LEAD A LAUDABLE EXISTENCE HENCEFORTH. $50,000.00! PERSONALLY DONATED BY ME TO THE SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO OSTRICHES!
WOW! A SCOOP!
("-TWO THUGS--OUTSIDE THE STATION... EAVESDROPPING!-")
LATER...
WHEN THE PRANKSTER GETS GENEROUS WITH MONEY, IT'S TIME TO BEWARE! I'LL FOLLOW THOSE TWO-AND PERHAPS LEARN THE MEANING OF IT ALL!
5


LATER... IN "KING" RUGGLES' APARTMENT...
AN' THEN THE SAP DONATED $50,000 OF YOUR MONEY TO THE SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO OSTRICHES!
YOU BLUNDERING FOOLS! YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS!
THERE'LL BE NO SHOOTING-- JUST YET!
GRAB HIM, BOYS!
IT'S SUPERMAN!
YOU'RE GOING TO TELL ME JUST WHAT SCHEME THE PRANKSTER HAS UP HIS SLEEVE!
I CAN'T BUDGE HIM!
THIS DOES HURT ME MORE THAN IT HURTS HIM!
YOU BOTHER ME!
UGH!
THUD
NOW, WILL YOU TELL ME?
HONEST! I DON'T KNOW!
SECONDS AFTER SUPERMAN DEPARTS...
WHEW! GOOD THING SUPERMAN BELIEVED YOU, BOSS!
FINE THING! NOT ONLY DO I STAND TO LOSE A HUNDRED GRAND, BUT I GET A GOING OVER FROM THE TOUGHEST GUY ON EARTH!
PERHAPS THIS WILL REFRESH YOUR MEMORY!
STOP IT! STOP IT!!
MEANWHILE
THE PRANKSTER-- LEAVING THE JAIL'S REAR-- ENTERING A TAXI! MUST BE A JAIL-BREAK!
HEY!
6


END OF THE LINE!
TRANSFER!
'PON MY WORD, IF IT ISN'T SUPERMAN! GREETINGS, SALUTATIONS, AND SUCH!
HERE'S THE PRANKSTER! HE ALMOST GOT AWAY!
GOOD GOSH! AN' HERE I THOUGHT WE WERE RID OF HIM!
RID OF HIM?
YES, MRS. FARNSBY, THE WEALTHY SPONSOR OF THE SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO OSTRICHES, PUT UP BAIL FOR HIM. SHE SAYS ANYONE WHO WOULD TAKE THE PLIGHT OF OSTRICHES TO HEART MUST BE AN UPRIGHT CITIZEN!
UPRIGHT IS CORRECT. GOOD DAY, GENTLEMEN!
LATER . . . AT THE DAILY PLANET. . . .
YOU'VE SURE TAKEN THE PRANKSTER OVER THE COALS, CLARK!
AND WHY NOT? HE'S NOTHING BUT A SMOOTH SCOUNDREL AND A BUNCH OF SILLY CLUB WOMEN ARE TRYING TO MAKE A MARTYR OUT OF HIM.
HEY, MR. KENT! THERE ARE A FLOCK OF DAMES TO SEE YOU!
SO YOU'RE CLARK KENT! I THINK IT'S TERRIBLE THE WAY YOU'RE PERSECUTING THAT WONDERFUL MR. PRANKSTER!
BUT, MRS. FARNSBY! CONSIDER THE FACTS--!
THE FACTS ARE THAT THE PRANKSTER IS GUILTY OF NOTHING EXCEPT AN IMPISH SENSE OF HUMOR. BUT YOU ARE GUILTY OF LIBEL!
LADIES! LADIES! I APPRECIATE YOUR SOLICITUDE IN MY BEHALF, BUT LEAVE POOR MR KENT ALONE.
OH, MY! IT'S-- THE PRANKSTER!
WHAT'S HE DOING HERE??!
I AM A GREAT ADMIRER OF MR. KENT'S WRITING STYLE. I MERELY DROPPED IN TO EXTEND MY DEEPEST ADMIRATION.
YOU WORM! AFTER ALL YOU'VE SAID AGAINST HIM, THE PRANKSTER IS GENTLEMAN ENOUGH TO VISIT YOU WITH COMPLIMENTS!
7

IN THE ENSUING DAYS, THRONGS OF WOMEN, LED BY MRS. FARNSBY, VIGOROUSLY CAMPAIGN IN THE PRANKSTER'S BEHALF...
THE PRANKSTER must BE FREED
JUSTICE SHALL TRIUMP
CLARK KENT UNFAIR TO THE PRANKSTER
THIS IS AN EVEN BIGG CAUSE THA WOMEN SUFFRAGE
THE DAY OF THE TRIAL, THE COURTROOM IS MOBBED WITH MILITANT WOMEN...
SIT DOWN, MARY! THIS IS A COURT OF LAW, NOT A CIRCUS!
I WARN YOU, JOHN! FREE THE PRANKSTER OR I'LL DIVORCE YOU!
GOOD FOR YOU!
BR-RR! FROM THOSE DIRTY LOOKS I'M GETTING, YOU'D THINK THAT I, INSTEAD OF THE PRANKSTER, WAS ON TRIAL!
IT IS THE JUDGMENT OF THIS COURT THAT YOU GO FREE-- AND THE SOONER YOU GET OUT OF HERE-- THE BETTER!
THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR! YOUR WORDS-- SWEET MUSIC TO MY JOYOUS EARS!
AS THE PRANKSTER DEPARTS AMIDST CHEERS...
RUGGLES WANTS TO SEE YOU!
HE DOES, EH? GOODY GOODY!
ONLY IT'S LIABLE TO BE NOT SO GOODY FOR YOU, BUDDY.
$50,000 STILL LEFT! I GOT A GOOD MIND TO TELL MY BOYS TO RUB YOU OUT!
JUST SAY THE WORD!
OKAY, OKAY. TAKE THAT FIFTY GRAND AND BEAT IT. MAYBE I'M BATTY, BUT I'LL PLAY THIS THRU WITH YOU!
ER-- THERE'S A DELICATE SUBJECT I MUST BRING UP-- A MATTER OF $25,000. I'M AFRAID I WILL NEED IT TO PUT MY SCHEME OVER SUCCESSFULLY.
MORE DOUGH?!
TEE HEE! BUT IF YOU WERE TO SLAY ME, YOU WOULD BE THE LOSER OF FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS-- WHEREAS, IF I WERE ALIVE-- YOU WOULD BE THE RECIPIENT OF A MILLION!
AFTER THE MIRTHFUL MALCREANT DEPARTS...
HOW DO YA LIKE THAT? I HAVE YOU BRING HIM HERE TO BUMP HIM OFF AND GET BACK WHAT DOUGH I CAN-- THEN END UP BY GIVING HIM ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE GRAND!
YOU'RE A BIG SA--, I MEAN, YOU'RE VERY BIG-HEARTED, BOSS!
8

NEXT MORNING...
HAVE YOU SEEN THE MORNING PICTORIAL? IN AN INTERVIEW, MRS. FARNSBY FAWNS OVER A LETTER OF APPRECIATION SHE RECEIVED FROM THE PRANKSTER.
BAH! I HOPE I NEVER HEAR OF THE PRANKSTER AGAIN.
TELEGRAM FOR YOU, MR. KENT.
THE NERVE OF THE PRANKSTER! HE'S INVITING ALL NEWSPAPER REPORTERS TO HIS HOTEL SUITE-- CLAIMS HE HAS AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT. I WON'T GO!
OH, YES YOU WILL! THE PRANKSTER IS NEWS!
LATER
USUALLY, PEOPLE AREN'T TOLD HOW WELL THEY ARE THOUGHT OF UNTIL THEY ARE DEAD. WELL, I INTEND TO WRITE LETTERS OF APPRECIATION TO EVERYONE I ADMIRE--AND MY FIRM WILL BE CALLED-- APPRECIATION, INCORPORATED!
TRUE TO HIS WORD, THE PRANKSTER LAUNCHES HIS NOVEL ORGANIZATION...
WHEN YOU FINISH THAT LETTER PRAISING DONA MONA FOR HER PERFORMANCE IN HER NEW PLAY, I'LL DICTATE A LETTER TO MARVIN MOBRAY, THE MUNITIONS MILLIONAIRE.
THOUSANDS OF FLATTERING LETTERS BOMBARD THE NATION'S LEADING CITIZENS....
BUT, CLARK --WE SAW NO MORE THAN THE NEWSREEL!
AND THAT WAS ENOUGH! THE SIGHT OF THE PRANKSTER, HOBNOBBING WITH THE CELEBRITIES HE HAS FLATTERED SILLY IS TOO MUCH FOR MY SENSITIVE STOMACH!
NOW SHOWIN
S'MATTER, BOSS?
A LETTER OF APPRECIATION FROM APPRECIATION, INCORPORATED, THANKING ME FOR MY NOBLENESS IN DONATING $125,000!
TH' NERVE OF THE PRANKSTER!!
9

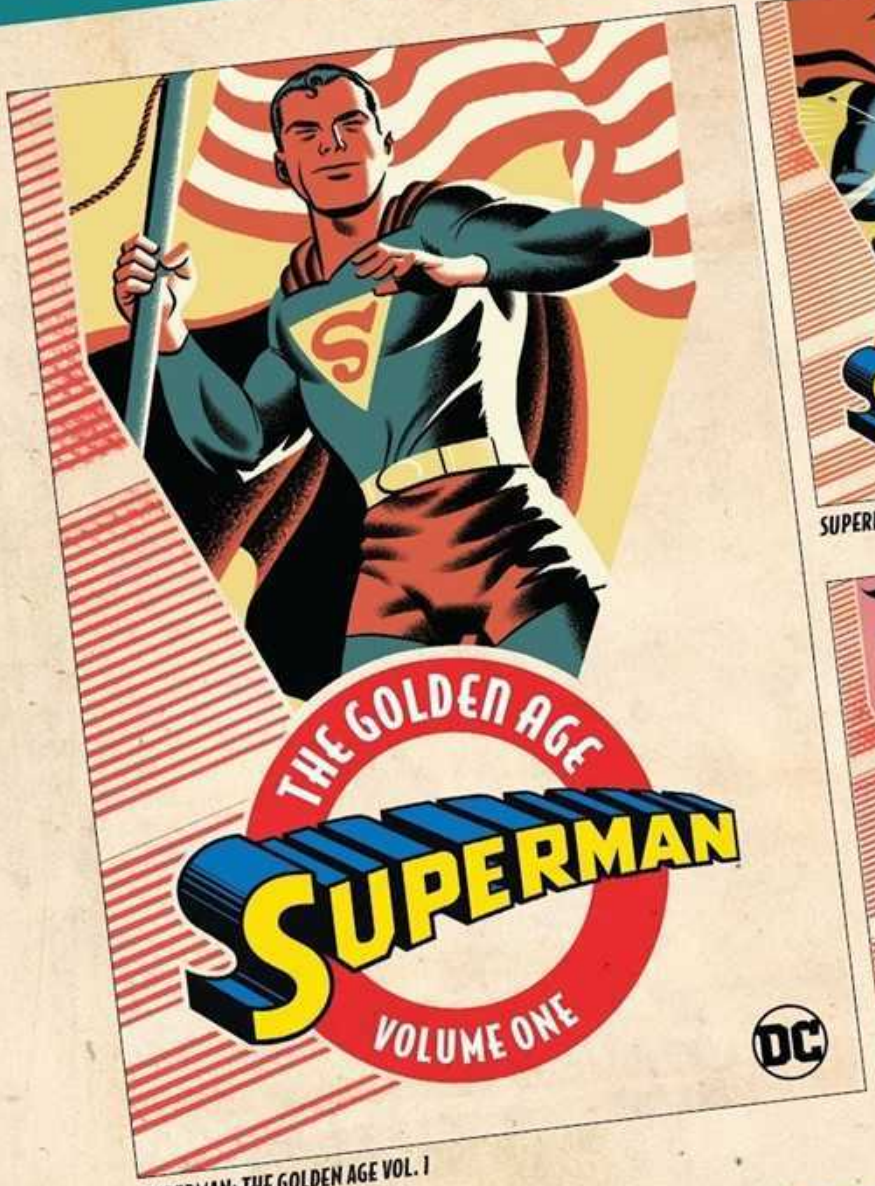

STARTLING NEWS DEVELOPMENTS CROWD THE PRANKSTER OFF THE FRONT PAGE....
DAILY PLANET
MOVIE ACTOR ROBBED
SENTINEL NEWS
MAYOR'S MANSION LOOTED
MONITOR
SOCIALITE ROBBED OF JEWELS
COUNT CONKED BY CROOKS
STAR OF RANGOON STOLEN
DAILY CHRONICLE
CLARK VISITS THE SCENE OF ONE OF THE MANY ROBBERIES.
WHAT WORRIES ME MORE THAN MY ART OBJECTS HAVING BEEN STOLEN IS HOW ANYONE COULD HAVE PICKED THE LOCK TO MY HOUSE. THE MANUFACTURERS ASSURED ME SUCH A THING WAS IMPOSSIBLE.
LOIS--I'VE AN INVITATION TO THE DEBUT OF VAN WAIKELY'S DAUGHTER. IT OUGHT TO BE A REALLY OPULENT AFFAIR. WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO?
I'D LOVE IT!
THAT EVENING....
'PON MY WORD, IF IT ISN'T MY BOSOM COMRADE, CLARK KENT!
THE PRANKSTER!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
WHAT A DATE! FIRST YOU TELL ME WHAT A WONDERFUL TIME I'M GOING TO HAVE, THEN BEFORE I CAN EVEN GET A GOOD LOOK AT THE SURROUNDINGS, YOU YANK ME OUT!
I REFUSE TO STAY IN THE GAME ROOM WITH THAT BUFFOON!
NEXT DAY...
VAN WAIKELY'S HOME WAS ROBBED LAST NIGHT! HM-MM. I WONDER...?
OF COURSE, THE PRANKSTER'S PRESENCE THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN A COINCIDENCE. BUT--I DOUBT IT!
10

SHORTLY BEFORE... AS THE PRANKSTER HAD DEPARTED FROM HIS OFFICE BUILDING...!
JUST A MINUTE, YOU'RE GOING WITH US!
THE BOSS WANTS TO SEE YOU!
WHAT A PECULIAR COINCIDENCE! I WAS JUST ABOUT TO PAY HIM A VISIT OF MY OWN ACCORD!
AND SOON AFTER....
I'VE BEEN WANTING TO SEE YOU FOR A LONG TIME, YOU LITTLE PIPSQUEAK! DO YOU REALIZE SUPERMAN BROKE IN HERE AND MANHANDLED ME AND TH' BOYS?
MOST REGRETTABLE, BUT SUPERMAN DOESN'T BOTHER ME BECAUSE I KNOW THE SECRET OF HIS VULNERABILITY!
I'VE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT YOU'RE TRYING TO MAKE A SAP OUT OF ME! A MILLION FOR A HUNDRED GRAND! BOY, WAS I DUMB!
YOU CAN PUT THAT GUN AWAY. I'VE BROUGHT YOU THE MILLION. RIGHT HERE IN THIS BAG!
YOU MEAN--YOU'RE GOING TO GIVE ME THE MILLION NOW? BUT--HOW DID YOU GET IT??!
I'LL EXPLAIN.
MEANWHILE--A COSTUMED FIGURE ALIGHTS OUTSIDE AN OFFICE WINDOW...
NO ONE IN THE PRANKSTER'S PRIVATE OFFICE! NOW TO TAKE A LOOK AT HIS RECORDS!
JUST AS I THOUGHT! MOST OF THE CELEBRITIES WHO WERE RECENTLY ROBBED ARE ON THE PRANKSTER'S LIST OF PEOPLE TO WHOM HE SENT LETTERS OF APPRECIATION!

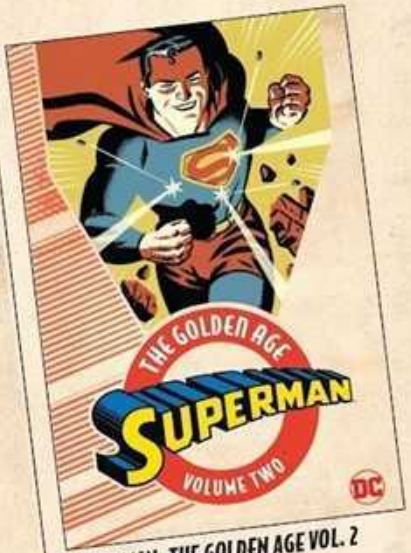
BY WRITING LETTERS OF APPRECIATION TO CELEBRITIES, I BECAME THEIR CLOSE ACQUAINTANCE, GAINED ENTRY TO THEIR HOMES, ONCE INSIDE, IT WAS A SIMPLE MATTER TO SPOT THE HIDING PLACES OF THEIR VALUABLES AND HAVE DUPLICATE KEYS TO THEIR HOMES MADE!
THEN IT WAS YOU WHO ROBBED THEM!
CORRECT, MY DEAR SIR! AND IT WAS YOUR GENEROUS INVESTMENT THAT MADE THE ENTIRE ENTERPRISE POSSIBLE. FOR THAT REASON, I SHALL GIVE YOU YOUR REWARD NOW!
THERE YOU ARE!
I'M RICH!!
AND NOW I'LL TAKE THE MILLION BACK!
YOU DOUBLE-CROSSING SKUNK! I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN YOU WOULDN'T KEEP YOUR WORD!
I SAID I'D GIVE YOU A MILLION FOR A HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS--BUT I DIDN'T SAY I'D LET YOU KEEP IT!
I THOUGHT I'D FIND YOU HERE!
SO YOU KNOW THE SECRET OF SUPERMAN'S VULNERABILITY, EH? PROVE IT!
STEP ONE: I SQUIRT WATER INTO SUPERMAN'S FACE! HE TRIES TO STRIKE ME!
WHY, YOU...!
STEP TWO: I DUCK, AND SUPERMAN KNOCKS HIMSELF OUT!!
MY GOSH!
IT WORKED!!
AND NOW --I SHALL DEPART!
OH, NO YOU DON'T! I ANTICIPATED A DOUBLE-CROSS FROM YOU, AND SO I POSTED MY MEN--JUST IN CASE!
A TRIPLE-CROSS!
12

SHORTLY AFTER... ENCASED IN A BLOCK OF CEMENT, SUPERMAN'S FIGURE IS DROPPED INTO THE RIVER...
I HAVE AN EVEN NEATER FINISH PLANNED FOR YOU.
YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME! THE NAVY WILL OPEN FIRE SOON!
AND YOU'LL BE THE OBJECT OF THEIR TARGET PRACTICE! HA! HA!
THE END OF SUPERMAN! TCH! TCH! WHAT A PITY! I ENJOYED CLASHING WITH HIM.
MEANWHILE-- REVIVING, SUPERMAN BURSTS FREE...
KIND OF CRAMPED!
SUPERMAN!
FIRST, I'LL TAKE YOU TO LAND-- THEN I'LL ATTEND TO "KING"!
DEPOSITING THE PRANKSTER ON SHORE, SUPERMAN STREAKS BACK THRU THE WATER TO FIND...
HELP!
WE'VE GOT INTO TROUBLE!
IT WOULD SERVE YOU RIGHT IF ONE OF THOSE SHELLS STRUCK YOU!
HOLD THESE MEN! YOU'LL FIND THE LOOT FROM THE CELEBRITY ROBBERIES ON THEM!
NICE WORK, SUPERMAN!
THE PRANKSTER ESCAPED HIS BONDS! AND HE'S LEFT A NOTE BEHIND FOR ME--A NOTE OF APPRECIATION FOR SAVING HIS LIFE! HE PROMISES TO GO STRAIGHT--BUT KNOWING HIM AS I DO, I SUSPECT IT'S JUST ANOTHER OF HIS PRANKS!
THE END
13

COMPLETE YOUR COLLECTION WITH THESE OTHER GOLDEN AND SILVER AGE TRADE PAPERBACKS



SUPERMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOL. 1



SUPERMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOL. 2

SUPERMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOL. 3

WONDER WOMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOL. 1

BATMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOL. 1

BATMAN: THE GOLDEN AGE VOL. 2

COLLECTING THESE **PULSE-POUNDING** ISSUES AND MORE!

THE CLASSIC ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN CONTINUE HERE!

In the early 1940s, Superman was a much-needed hero for a nation on the brink of war. The Man of Steel and the comic book medium were in their Golden Age, and with each new story, Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster were continuing to expand and enrich the world of their still relatively new creation. In these early adventures, Superman thwarts racketeers, gangsters, the Puzzler, the Prankster, and more! Plus, Lex Luthor returns—with superpowers of his own!

Superman: The Golden Age Volume Five collects adventures from ***Action Comics*** #48-57, ***Superman*** #16-19, and ***World's Finest Comics*** #6-8.

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